

Ministers act to aid jobless

A rearguard action by spending ministers in the Cabinet is believed to have limited the proposed cut in the real value of unemployment benefit. But some Conservative backbenchers remain unhappy about making further problems for jobless people. Details of increased spending will be announced by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, next week.

Ex-envoy's link with Czechs

Mr Edward Scott, a retired diplomat who has admitted he became involved with Soviet black agents because of an affair with a Czech housemaid, but was not prosecuted, claims he is the victim of a witch-hunt, for spies.

Roy Jenkins is SDP favourite

A survey shows that Mr Roy Jenkins is a clear favourite to be the first party leader of the SDP. The survey, on behalf of the Sunday Times, showed 52 per cent of SDP members preferred Mr Jenkins for leader.

Chad willing to recall Libyans

President Goukouni Oueddei of Chad says he will not hesitate to recall Libyan troops to return to his troubled country if the Organisation of African Unity peacekeeping force fails to establish control. The OAU force is due in Chad within two weeks.

Lords to hear of asbestos risk

British delays in producing asbestos cement developed by Surrey University, are to be raised in the Lords. A Dutch firm begins production in the spring.

Muldoon tries to keep power

Mr Robert Muldoon, whose ruling National Party lost five seats to the New Zealand general election, with the opposition parties at 48 each, is determined to hold on to power. "We are ahead. We are the Government," he told his supporters.

US urged to sell ideas like soap

A confidential memorandum has advised President Reagan to turn the Voice of America broadcasts into an out-and-out propaganda campaign, using techniques pioneered by advertising agencies to sell soap. "Selling involves more than reasoning," it involves emotions, the document said.

CBI predicts more gloom

Only a slight improvement in the economy next year is predicted by the Confederation of British Industry in its latest economic forecast. Output will rise by no more than 1 per cent, but the outlook for exports is more hopeful.

Pretoria denies Seychelles link

In the face of continuing allegations in Africa and the United Nations, South Africa has strongly denied any involvement in the abortive coup in the Seychelles. Meanwhile, about 300 British tourists have been stranded on the Indian Ocean islands.

England are 216 runs behind

India led England by 216 runs with one second-innings wicket in hand after the third day of the first Test match in Bombay. Kapil Dev, the Indian all-rounder, hit out spiritedly in the last 45 minutes to seize the initiative from England.

World Cup woe

Wales will not be joining England, Scotland and Northern Ireland in the World Cup Finals in Spain next year. Yesterday's 1-1 draw between the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia in Bratislava put paid to their hopes.

Letters: On the Scarman report, from Mr Jay Gough and others; Ireland, from Mr E. E. Williamson

Leading articles: Arms control talks; Ulster Unionists; Features, pages 8 and 10. Saving the next EEC summit, by Edward Heath; the SDP's middle class profile; if the royal baby is a girl; a profile of Sir Alec Guinness.

Obituary, page 12

Home News 2, 3
Prem Books 26
Overseas 4-6
Arts 13
Religion 13
Business 14-19
Sport 19-22
Crossword 26
Diary 10
TV & Radio 25
Features 8
Law Report 6
25 Years Ago 12
Laurie cartoon 6
Night sky 12

Muslim Brotherhood blamed

64 killed by car bomb in Damascus

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, Nov 29

President Hafez al-Assad's Government in Syria tonight blamed the extremist Muslim Brotherhood for a car bomb explosion which killed at least 64 people and injured a further 135 in a densely populated middle class district of Damascus early in the day.

The bomb, by far the worst incident of violence yet perpetrated against the Assad regime, was apparently intended for a police station and was detonated close to a crowded school.

The official Sana news agency tonight also chose to link the explosion indirectly to the collapse of the Arab summit in Fez, claiming that the bomb was intended to damage Syria's "steadfastness" in the face of American pressure for a Middle East peace settlement. Syria's refusal to attend the Fez conference and discuss the Saudi peace plan, in which the Americans showed considerable interest, was the immediate cause of the summit's suspension.

Sana claimed that the "Ikhwan"—the Brotherhood—planted the bomb on behalf of the imperialist-Zionist conspiracy, the tired phrase which the Syrians use for Israel and the United States. Whatever reasons the Assad Government may adduce for the carnage in their capital city today, the explosion was only the latest in a series of bomb attacks on Syrian government offices over the past four months.

A security policeman saw the driver of the car carrying the bomb leap from his vehicle in Ashakiya street at around lunchtime today and immediately opened fire at him. As the man lay dying in the roadway, the car disintegrated in a huge explosion that sent a cloud of dense black smoke so high over the city that it could be seen from three miles away.

The blast demolished several buildings and firemen and police dug through piles of debris to pull the dead and injured from beneath the tons of concrete that had collapsed on top of them. The full force of the explosion devastated a school in which children were preparing for their lunch hour. As security men cordoned off the area—just north of the Damascus souk and the Omayyad mosque—helicopters swept to and fro at low level over the city. Six hours after the bomb went off, bodies were still being pulled from the rubble.

Such attacks are normally given little or no publicity in Syria but today's explosion was of such violence that the official media made no attempt to suppress the news.

The Syrian Government recently stated that the Muslim Brotherhood had been crushed in Syria, a statement which makes today's official announcement of the bomb attack all the more significant.

Indeed, earlier this month, Mr Iskander Ahmed Iskander, the Syrian Information Minister, declared in an interview with *The Times* that the Brotherhood was "on the run".

When I asked if this meant that there would be no more bombings in Damascus, he replied: "We cannot definitely stop such things. These are ruthless people we are dealing with; can you stop IRA bombs in London or in Northern Ireland?"

Much of the violence generated by the Brotherhood over the past year has been fed by the brutal behaviour of Colonel Rifaa's security men who are believed to be responsible for the killing, in some cases outright murder, of more than 300 civilians in the Syrian city of Hama.

The Brotherhood, however, has itself cared little about civilian casualties during its attacks. Early last month, it planted a bomb outside the Soviet Embassy compound in Damascus and detonated it at the very moment when dozens of Russian children were leaving their school.

The death toll was believed to be almost 10 times the official figure of three admitted by the authorities.

Sinal compromise, page 5



4,000 marchers demand jobs not bombs

Young people, marching through London yesterday to draw attention to the plight of the jobless.

Nearly 4,000, mostly unemployed, joined the protest march from Hyde Park to the Jubilee Gardens on the South Bank, where they rallied beneath three large balloons proclaiming: "Give us a future" (Frances Gibb writes).

Wearing badges such as "Jobs not bombs" and "Jobs not YOPS" (Youth Opportunity Schemes) the marchers were accompanied by pop groups,

The demonstration was the national climax to the TUC's Jobs Express campaign.

A train picked up unemployed young people on a 750-mile journey round Britain, ending in London on Friday with the arrival of 400 youngsters from Wales, Scotland, East Anglia and the North.

One of the protesters, Winnie Miller, aged 19, who is a student at Southwark College, said: "Basically I have come here today to represent the young people who want jobs and cannot get them."

Mr Len Murray, TUC

Reagan aide goes on leave to defend role in cash scandal

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Nov 29

Mr Richard Allen, President Reagan's National Security Adviser, announced today that he was taking administrative leave of absence so that he can "speak out" about the controversy surrounding his acceptance of \$1,000 (about \$520) from a Japanese magazine for helping to arrange an interview with Mrs Nancy Reagan.

The announcement was made on NBC television's *Meet the Press* programme. Mr Allen said he had made a mistake of resigning and that he expected to resume his duties once the Justice Department had completed its investigation into the matter.

Admiral James Nance, Mr Allen's deputy, will be Acting National Security Adviser during his absence.

Mr Allen, who referred to a press campaign of innuendo and sensationalism, said he had informed the President of his decision to take leave of absence, but declined to say whether the President supported his plans to return to his post.

His decision came after press reports that Mrs Reagan, Mr James Baker, the White House Chief of Staff, and Mr Michael Deaver, the Deputy Chief of Staff, had called for Mr Allen to be removed because of the embarrassment



Mr Allen: Under investigation.

he was causing the Administration.

Mr Allen said he had not heard directly from any of the three that they wanted him to go, but he had apologized to Mr Reagan for causing her embarrassment.

He repeated denials that he had done anything wrong by receiving \$1,000 but admitted an error of judgment in not handing it immediately to the counsel for the President and for not explaining what had happened.

He had taken an envelope containing the cash, along with other papers, which were "thrust at" Mrs Reagan after the interview. "But my intention was to hand that money over to the authorities."

Picket line dilemma for BL strikers

By Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent

Longbridge strikers intending to defy their unions and report for work this morning were thrown into confusion last night by a shop stewards' refusal to say whether or not there would be official picket lines at the factory gates.

Mr Jack Adams, a works convenor said: "I am not going to discuss our plans. We are quite confident we can handle the situation. A decision on pickets will be taken tomorrow but I am not prepared to say when that will be."

Pickets have not been used so far in the three weeks old strike by 220 assembly line workers who are refusing to accept a 12-minute cut in their daily relaxation-time allowance. The works committee met on Friday to consider its response to a management decision to open the factory and test worker support for the strike.

The committee, which is comprised of senior shop stewards, decided not to introduce pickets. This was interpreted as a realistic decision because of the impossible task which would face pickets. They would have to separate strikers from the 6,200 workers laid off who are returning with the blessing of both the company and their unions. But it will be a much easier task for strike leaders to obtain the identity of strikers while they are reaching their work stations. This could lead

later to the introduction of pickets, carefully chosen to identify men who normally work alongside them.

BL executives have failed to give an unequivocal answer to the question which is worrying many of the strikers: "What will the company do for us if we come to work in such small numbers that you then have to send us home? We could lose our union cards for strike-breaking and in a closed shop like Longbridge, that will mean no more work for us."

They will have to make do with the answer given by Mr Harold Musgrove, chairman of BL's light medium car operations, who said: "You will receive our full support and guarantee of continued employment. I am saying come back and vote with your feet."

BL's intervention to end a strike which has already cost 18,000 cars, worth £65m, is intended to demonstrate to unions that the strike no longer reflects the views of the majority of members involved. It is gambling that with only three working weeks remaining before Christmas, the welfare of strikers' families will be the deciding factor.

BL chiefs are also annoyed that unions have not thought fit to put the company's latest proposals for phasing in the reduced break times over four months, to a mass meeting. Please to Esso drivers, page 2

Schmidt has no Geneva doubts

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Nov 29

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, said today he had "no doubts whatsoever" about the Soviet intention to negotiate seriously at the Geneva "missile" talks beginning tomorrow.

Herr Schmidt and Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, his Foreign Minister, yesterday briefed Mr Paul Nitze, the chief American negotiator, on what they had learnt of the Soviet position during President Reagan's visit to Bonn.

Mr Nitze and Herr Genscher said the United States intended to tackle the negotiations "intensively, constructively and briskly, and to achieve results," Foreign Ministry officials said.

Mr Nitze and the West German leaders discussed the American negotiating position which had been worked out with its European allies in the Nato "special consultative group."

In an interview with the weekly news magazine *Der Spiegel*, Herr Genscher said Mr Nitze's visit to West Germany on his way to Geneva was fresh proof of the American Government's desire to remain in a "close consultation process" with Bonn.

Herr Genscher described tomorrow's opening of the talks as a "historic date" and said he was optimistic about the negotiations. He felt that the two years negotiating time available was enough to reach an agreement.

In a radio interview Herr Schmidt recalled that his own career and the future of the West German government were bound up with the progress of the Geneva talks. "If one side or the other does not negotiate seriously, much is at stake for us too. And that is why we will insist that negotiations are conducted seriously."

He said it would be "a grave mistake" for the Soviet Union to imagine that the European peace movement would prevent the stationing of Nato missiles if an agreement were not reached.

Both sides under deadline pressure

He had made it clear to Mr Brezhnev early in the talks that "his government would have the missiles deployed if there were no progress by late 1983 and that they would be German missiles would do exactly the same."

But when the Soviet Union burst into the American side very emphatically that there are now less than two years to achieve results.

The Chancellor said that while trying to find the American position to the Soviet Union, he had also made clear "how much we Germans have influenced the American view."

The proposal to do away with all medium-range missiles was not originally an American proposal. It was a German proposal.

"We will not negotiate our selves but during the negotiations we will be in contact with not only with America and our Western allies but also with the Soviet Union."

Herr Schmidt said that as a result of his talks with Mr Brezhnev, he could "very well imagine that one could reach a consensus in the first phase (of negotiations) on a solution to the missile problem if, at the same time, there was an agreement in principle on the remaining medium-range weapons would be brought into balance."

He was referring to his suggestion, apparently accepted in principle by Mr Brezhnev, that the negotiations be conducted in stages with the missiles—the Soviet SS20s and the Nato Pershing 2s and cruises—first.

His remarks indicated that the Soviet Union would be prepared to do this so long as a basis was laid for subsequent negotiations on other medium-range weapons, including the American, British and French airborne and submarine-launched nuclear weapons.

Russians question the seriousness of US

On the eve of the talks, the Russians have publicly questioned American readiness to negotiate seriously, suggesting the Americans are seeking a pretext to lead the talks into stalemate (Michael Binyon writes from Moscow).

The official news agency, Tass, today reiterated Soviet opposition to President Reagan's proposals for a "zero option," calling it a "fictional plan made purely for propaganda."

Tass said the Americans were seeking unilateral military advantage and were violating the principle of equal security. While the Soviet side had a sincere desire to reduce nuclear armaments in Europe, "people in the Soviet Union are far from sure that the United States is sincere in its desire to do the same."

The agency, citing American statements about the possibility of a limited nuclear war and the refusal to give a pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, said: "All this gives rise to a suspicion that the United States is willing to replace serious and honest talks with a propaganda show designed to distract attention from accelerated war preparations."

Despite today also denouncing the "dramatic" Reagan proposals, which would lead to unilateral Soviet disarmament, the Americans were trying to change the present one-to-one balance in medium-range nuclear weapons to a ratio of two-to-one in Nato's favour.

Pope John Paul, in a personal message to President Reagan and Mr Brezhnev before the Geneva talks, has called on the United States and the Soviet Union to exert common efforts of good will and to reduce the threat of nuclear war (John Earle writes from Rome).

The Vatican has not published the text of the Pope's message as it is a personal message. Vatican officials said that the Pope had summed up the contents in his words today and that it would be up to the recipients to publish the letter.

Geneva preview, page 4

Leading article, page 11

Home News 2, 3
Prem Books 26
Overseas 4-6
Arts 13
Religion 13
Business 14-19
Sport 19-22
Crossword 26
Diary 10
TV & Radio 25
Features 8
Law Report 6
25 Years Ago 12
Laurie cartoon 6
Night sky 12

The exception that could prove to be your rule.

THE FAMOUS GROUSE

FINEST SCOTCH WHISKY

Matthew Gloag & Son Ltd.

Perth, Scotland

PRODUCED IN SCOTLAND

THE FAMOUS GROUSE

FINEST SCOTCH WHISKY

Matthew Gloag & Son Ltd.

Perth, Scotland

PRODUCED IN SCOTLAND

Natalie Wood dies in boat accident

Avalon, California, Nov 29.

Natalie Wood, a star of such films as *West Side Story* and *Rebel Without a Cause*, was found dead off the California resort island of Catalina today, apparently having drowned after wandering away from a party, police said. She was 43.

Detectives have been sent to the small island, a vacation resort, where many film stars go to relax, to investigate the death of Miss Wood, the wife of Mr Robert Wagner, the actor.

Police said friends of Miss Wood notified lifeguards of her disappearance at 5.15 am today after she had apparently wandered off from a party on the island four hours earlier.

Witnesses reported seeing a woman get into a 14-ft inflatable boat and head out to sea. The body of Miss Wood was spotted by a helicopter seven hours after she left her friends, floating in a lagoon about 200 yards out to sea.

The boat, named *Splendour*, was found by lifeguards drifting near by. —Reuters.

Obituary, page 12

One vikend in the life of a Russlish girl

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, Nov 29

A girl in an elegant *fur-balka* with a *buldog* was watching the match one vikend. Before the finish the *Rejeri* awarded a *penalti* and the home side scored two goals.

Wearing a *pulover* and *dzhins*, she went to a *night-klub*, where she danced to *rock-musik*, while the *disk-dzoki* played the *diski* in the *khit-parad*.

Her *mazer* had told her not to *firtivat*, so she then went home to watch *TV* and saw the *champion* in *box nokaut* his *partner*.

One could go on indefinitely with this story in *Russlish*, but nowadays such *chargin* is considered "little more than linguistic *khuliganizm*, and is arousing the anger of purists and patriots alike. A recent furious attack on the Anglicisms now flooding into Russian even suggested that they were undermining Soviet patriotism and were an insidious attempt to "Americanise" Soviet youth.

The outraged writer, a doctor of philology, said that the constant use of English jargon would soon lead to the "loss of the feeling for the beauty, the richness, originality and harmony of the Russian language and a total impoverishment of speech."

Mastery of Russian and a correct attitude to the language was closely linked to patriotism, he added. These hateful new-angled words were like linguistic *holigans*. "They are not only contrary

to the character of the Russian language, but are evidence of an ignorance of and disrespect for the national spirit of Russia."

The doctor called for a full ideological and educational campaign against such jargon, especially among the rich and chic in the big cities. "You won't find *Arizhians* wearing *fur-balkas* or sailors' *if Denigrad* using such terms."

The struggle for pure speech had to be waged in conjunction with a struggle for a common youth culture, for a foreign world outlook and for the inculcation of a feeling of love for the motherland.

Significantly, the paper's call follows hard on the heels of warnings by top ideologists and deputy heads of the KGB, the security police, that Soviet youth was being corrupted by Western pop music, supported by materialistic and hedonistic, undisciplined adolescents.

Western—especially American—fashions and way of life. Some *Russlish* has become so widespread that it seems to have lost any meaning for native English-speakers. A

fur-balka, for example, means what Anglophones call a T-shirt (or sweatshirt). The verbal ending *furak* makes such useful words as *nokaut* (the knocked out) rather hard to catch at first.

The battle to rid Russian of foreign words—also fought with particular ferocity during Stalin's campaign against cosmopolitanism—may never be lost, however. It is not only young people who now talk about shopping for a *dzhemper* and *shaozi*. Modern technology has adopted wholesale the non-Russian words *komputer* (the *mekhan* of the *hated West*). In a *seishn* (session) using their program in the English-based computer languages. "You can talk to a garage mechanic about a car-bumper, a dog-laver about his *pozdni* (lately) and to a sportsman (female athlete) about her *travmerok* (trauma)."

Perhaps the final blow to that ideology itself has had to borrow terms. In every *kollektiv* there is the *portnye* and *prichy*, a *zidny*. All very *shoking*.

سك ان التللي

Lords to debate delays over 'safe asbestos'

By David Nicholson-Lord

British delays in producing a supposedly safe and more versatile alternative to asbestos cement, developed by Surrey University and planned for commercial production early next year by foreign competitors, are to be raised tomorrow in the Lords.

An option on an exclusive licence to produce Netem, a building material which does not contain the white asbestos fibres increasingly linked by critics to asbestosis and fatal lung disease, has been granted to the British group Norcross, as well as Dutch and Italian competitors, since patents were taken out by the university in 1976.

But, while the Dutch firm DSM, which has the licence for most of western Europe, intends to go into production next March or April, the university has been disappointed at the lack of progress made by Norcross and its subsidiary, Dow-Mac Concrete. Dow-Mac has now told Surrey it does not want to take up the option.

The delays have angered asbestos safety campaigners who blame inertia by industry, coupled with the Government's failure to introduce legislation on the use of alternatives as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Asbestos, under Mr William Simpson, chairman of the Health and Safety Commission, in October 1979.

Mrs Nancy Tait, secretary of the Society for Asbestos and Industrial Disease, yesterday described the lack of progress as disturbing. It is in line with a "general reluctance by industry in this country" to consider alternatives. The Government should finance the development of substitutes and enforce their use, she added.

According to Dow-Mac, which does not produce asbestos products, Netem provided severe technical problems. Mr Nigel Wiggins,

the firm's marketing director, said: "It is not the panacea it was thought to be when it was first brought to our attention". The university said up to £12.5m had been spent on Netem by companies on the Continent, and DSM has received aid from the Dutch Government. But Mr Wiggins said that after three-and-a-half years of development by Dow-Mac, he remained dubious about the product's commercial prospects.

The controversy over white asbestos, traditionally considered to be relatively safe in contrast to the known dangers of blue asbestos, has grown up after recent developments in the use of electron microscopes to examine diseased tissue. These have disclosed the presence of the much smaller white fibres previously undetected by ordinary optical microscopes.

In the Lords tomorrow, the Earl of Gosford will initiate a debate on asbestos substitutes and on whether the Government is "satisfied with the methods of monitoring asbestos which are currently in general use", a reference to optical microscopes.

Use of electron microscopes, according to Mrs Tait, has in the last few months, led to local benefit appeals tribunals to alter decisions in two cases. What was previously said to be bronchitis and heart disease was rediagnosed as asbestosis.

Asbestos cement is widely used in wall, roof and ceiling panels. Industry disputes that it is health hazard and points to recent planning inquiry decision in which risks were said to be "negligible" with proper precautions.

But the inquiry inspector also said the use of electron microscopes might call for changes in recommended handling methods.

Some police surgeons 'are not competent'

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The "bumbling incompetence" of some police surgeons is criticized in their association's magazine. The controversy indicates there is a risk of miscarriage of justice in some of the cases in which they appear.

Police surgeons are responsible for gathering evidence in non-fatal criminal cases, but can be involved crucially in murder investigations if they are first on the scene.

The Police Surgeon Supplement has joined a campaign to raise standards of police surgeons' competence and qualifications.

The editor, Dr Myles Clarke, of Hutton, says: "The standard of police surgeons across the country appears to vary from the pinnacle of excellence to bumbling incompetence."

"Some of the candidates on presenting themselves for the diploma (in Medical Jurisprudence), fondly imagining themselves to be widely experienced in police work, have found glaring lacunae exposed in their knowledge."

"Fortunately for them, the exposure was made in the comparative privacy of the examination room rather than in court, with the attendant glare of publicity."

He was replying to the attack of two highly respected police surgeons on his contention that those with the diploma should be better paid than those without. Dr J. Henry, a London police surgeon, says: Dr Clarke's views are galling to those who have served for many years.

A proposal for different fees because the association's official policy, "I would resign", Dr Henry said.

The association has about 550 members but does not know how many police surgeons are not members. Most are in full-time National Health Service general practice.

Ex-envoy says he was victim of witch-hunt

By Frances Gibb

A retired British diplomat who has admitted illicit links with Soviet block agents in the late fifties, the latest in a line of confessions by government officials, claimed yesterday that he was the victim of a witch-hunt for spies.

Mr Edward Scott, aged 63, who had dealings with Czech officials when he was number two at the British Embassy in Prague from 1956 to 1958, said that his name had now been brought into the open for one of two reasons.

"Either there has been a decision taken in the national interest to let a number of cats out of the bag or some person is driving a coach and six through the Official Secrets Act on purpose."

Mr Scott, who was not prosecuted after admitting his action to British intelligence officers in 1969, became involved with Soviet block agents when he had an affair with a Czech housemaid who was reporting to the Czech secret service.

His confession in *The Sunday Times* yesterday comes four weeks after Mr Leo Long, a former British intelligence officer, admitted to spying for the Russians. After that disclosure, the Prime Minister refused to say how many people had been offered immunity in the wake of investigations into the spy ring surrounding the now-disgraced Mr Anthony Blunt.

Mrs Thatcher is to be questioned in Parliament over this latest disclosure and asked why Mr Scott should be enjoying an index-linked Civil Service pension.

Mr Bruce George, Labour MP for Walsall South, said yesterday that he would be raising the issue. "How many more cases are there still to be uncovered? Do we have to read the newspapers to find out how many worms are in the can?"

Yesterday at a press conference in the Hilton hotel, Mr Scott denied he had given any information of value to the Czechs; he rejected any accusations of being a spy or



Mr Edward Scott speaking at the Hilton hotel yesterday

secret contact with Czech officials. "But I hoped it would not be in the national interest to bring a prosecution against a fourth league sinner."

Far from giving secret information, Mr Scott said he had held back from saying anything of value. He said that although he was at Cambridge he had nothing to do with the circle of Marxists which flourished during the thirties and which provided the core of the spying network led by Philby and Maclean.

After postings in Tehran and Tangier, he went to Prague in 1958, at that time "a sensitive place", and started having an affair with his housemaid, Irena Peckova. He knew that like all employees, she had been placed in his home by the Czech authorities. "To that extent I knew she was planted; but I was very fond of her and she of me and I wanted to help her."

He said she was disillusioned with the political regime and he agreed to try to get her out of the country by "putting my own head on the block". His ploy, he said, was to pretend to Czech officials that he could be of use as a spy in the future.

When he was due to be posted back to London he arranged through her to meet a Czech official. He said he had no difficulty in drawing a line between information that was useful and that which he did not wish to reveal.

The visa was arranged and Mr Scott continued to meet with Czech agents in London for a few months around 1958/59 to ensure that his housemaid was settled in Vienna, he said.

Since then, Mr Scott says he has had no further contact. The relationship with the girl fizzled out and he left the Foreign Office and went into the City.

Mr Nigel West, author of *MIS: British Security Services Operations 1909-1945*, said yesterday that it was he who had told *The Sunday Times* about Mr Scott, whom he had come across when researching his book.

A vital part of Mr Scott's story, Mr West said, was that during the war he was assistant military attaché in the King's Royal Rifle Corps in Kabul. "When he was known to have contact with the Soviets."

He passed his Foreign Office examinations in 1947 and then spent three years in the same office as Burgess before his first posting to Tehran.

Mr Scott is now living with his fourth wife. His second wife, Diana, was with him in Prague. She divorced him in 1965.

Thatcher firm facing threat in Wales

From Our Correspondent Llandudno

The militant Welsh Language Society has threatened "direct action" if building work is started by a company for which Mr Denis Thatcher acts as consultant on a development at Harlech in North Wales.

On Saturday, scores of demonstrators protested at Harlech against the proposal to build 65 homes and a motel there. Two wooden huts on the site, close to Harlech Castle, were badly damaged but no arrests were made.

Although Gwyneth County Council and local councils are opposed to the development, fearing it could lead to more holiday homes, it was sanctioned by Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales. It was to Mr Edwards that the Prime Minister's husband wrote his leaked letter complaining about a planning appeal delay involving the development company, HIC.

Flaid Cymru's two MPs, Mr Dafydd Ellis Thomas (Merioneth) and Mr Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) attended the demonstration, but had left when the damage was caused.

Mr Wigley, who is president of Flaid Cymru, said: "It is insensitive of Mr Edwards to pretend that a letter from the Prime Minister's husband receives exactly the same attention as one from anybody else. Surely, it is like a company employee being asked for a lift by the managing director's wife, he cannot refuse whatever his feelings."

"There should not be one rule for ordinary people and another for others who can influence the processes of power. Mr Edwards should have been aware of the high feelings about holiday homes in this area."

River victim named
A body washed up on the banks of the Wyre at Knott End, Lancashire, has been identified as that of Mr John Stirling MacDonald, aged 42, of Harcourt Road, Blackpool.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Indemnity sought for rate rebels

A group of labour councils is seeking to commit a future Labour government to indemnifying local councillors surcharged for defying the Government on council spending.

The move comes in a joint statement sponsored by the councils which will be put to a meeting next Saturday with the Left-wing Labour Coordinating Committee.

It says that if Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, succeeds in introducing rates referendums, councils should hold their own referendums asking electors if they want services cut.

If Labour councillors refuse to make the cuts or bring in rate increases, the statement pledges full support for them and calls on a future Labour government to give them retrospective indemnity against charges.

Among the councils sponsoring the conference are the Greater London Council, Lothian, Dundee, Stirling, and Sheffield.

Offer to jailed teacher may go to Ombudsman

From Our Correspondent Welshpool

The Ombudsman for Wales may be asked to investigate Powys County Council's decision to reinstate Mr Wayne Williams, a teacher who is in prison.

He taught Welsh at Llandilo High School until he was jailed earlier this year for nine months for his part in the fourth television channel campaign.

More than 270 parents have signed a petition opposing his reinstatement and Mr Delwyn Williams, Conservative MP for Montgomery, said he might call in the Ombudsman to see if there have been a cover-up of administrative incompetence.

Yorkshire plea for Glasgow rail link

The Transport Users Consultative Committee for the Yorkshire area has asked British Rail to retain a direct link between West Yorkshire and the west of Scotland after diversion of express trains between Nottingham and Glasgow via Lancashire next May. Though the new system will mean some improvements for people in the Bradford area, passengers to Glasgow from Leeds and Sheffield will have to change at Carlisle.

Not like father

Miss Shara Knight, aged 18, the daughter of Mr John Knight, who has fathered 19 children, was married at Launceston, Cornwall on Saturday to Mr Jim Halls, a sheep shearer. The bride, who has a baby son, vowed to stop at six children.

Pact means return of 'News at Ten'

By Kenneth Gossling

Independent Television News returned to normal working on Saturday night and the first "News at Ten" for more than a week will be broadcast tonight after a strike by 350 technicians.

An agreement was reached on Saturday after more than 20 hours of talks spread over three days on the technicians' argument that a dispute over the salary and manning levels for operating new video tape machines should be referred to the industry's arbitration tribunal.

Management initially offered £500 to each technician working the new machinery and a review in 18 months. They later offered £5 a day for the same work, with arbitration in nine months. The union replied that it would agree to arbitration in three months.

The talks were held under the auspices of the conciliation, Advisory and Arbitration Service.

Mr Lawrie Read, ITN shop steward of the Association of Cinematograph Technicians and Allied Technicians, said yesterday: "We do not like to talk of victories but the craziness of the situation is that on Wednesday we agreed to the use of the arbitration procedure in three months; now they have conceded everything and the arbitration can start immediately."

"This means the whole thing could have been settled and ITN could have been back on Thursday morning, putting out its Crosby by-election special that evening and full news programmes for the rest of the week."

"They have tried to say that this has been about money but there is one word about it in Saturday's settlement. The most important thing to grasp is that basically this was never a dispute about money but about a principle. That quite literally is the paramount thing and why the entire ITN shop was so supportive."

The agreement worked out on Saturday will provide for a single editor to operate up to three video tape machines. Previously one editor had worked the machines with an editor under training.

ITN explained yesterday that the training was like putting a pilot of a Boeing 747 into training to fly Concorde. It meant experienced people learning to use advanced technology.

The tribunal, which will consider representations on remuneration and grading of editors' work on the new machines, consists of six representatives of each side of the industry. None is expected to have had any direct involvement in the dispute. The arbitration is likely to take about a fortnight.

Mr Read said: "I hope that this week-long strike will have been the means of averting a much longer one."

'ACQUITTED' PEOPLE PENALIZED

By Marcel Berlins, Legal Correspondent

Many defendants who are found not guilty are then penalized by the courts by being made to pay substantial contributions to their legal aid, according to a survey published today. Other acquitted people have been refused costs from central funds.

People convicted of minor offences have often been fined small amounts but made to pay prosecution costs out of all proportion according to a study of 641 crown court cases by Mr Howard Levenson, a solicitor and law lecturer.

He concludes that the effect of penalizing an innocent defendant, or a trivial offender, through "could well be to inhibit defendants from pleading not guilty, fighting their cases before a jury, and appealing if they are convicted."

The Cobden Trust, the research arm of the National Council for Civil Liberties, supports Mr Levenson's findings with examples from its files.

Recently a woman convicted of shoplifting goods worth £6.99 was fined £50, but ordered to pay £700 costs. And a youth convicted of avoiding a City Tube fare was fined £25, but ordered to pay £200 costs.

The Price of Justice, (Cobden Trust, 12.55).

"WELCOME, CHINA"

The 5,000 branches of Barclays Bank across 79 countries worldwide would like to welcome the latest addition to the network.

Our representative's office in Beijing (Peking)-Barclays' first in China. Peter Rock is our man there, to help and advise you on your business with a country which, in terms of resources and economic potential, is getting more important every day.

From Beijing, Barclays will

further develop a long-standing association with the Bank of China, and with trading and manufacturing companies throughout the Far East.

Supporting your international business interests, wherever they may be. Get in touch with Peter Rock at the address below, to find out how our new Beijing office can help you. Or in Britain, contact 54 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3AH, telephone 01-283 8989, extension 3238.



BARCLAYS BANK INTERNATIONAL LIMITED, EXHIBITION CENTRE HOTEL, SOUTH BUILDING, BLOCK 1, XI ZHI MEN WAI STREET, BEIJING. TELEPHONE 89054 EXTENSION 466/7. TELEX 22589.

The real failure behind effort to reshape Europe

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Nov 29

The failure of last week's European summit in London to reach agreement on guidelines and timetables to reshape the EEC's finances and agricultural policy was not a failure, according to Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the British Prime Minister.

By that she meant that the Community still exists and that everyone understood each other better after two days of hard talking and negotiating. But it is precisely because the Community still exists in its present form that the summit was a failure.

Since Britain took over the presidency in midsummer, thousands of hours of meetings and drafting sessions have been spent in constructing the document which was largely thrown away on Friday evening.

Mrs Thatcher may have said that everyone now had a better understanding of each other, but it is difficult to see what aspect of the situation had not been thoroughly discussed before the summit began.

The problem is that although the heads of government got on very well together, when it came to putting their understanding into writing the drafting officials came up against the fact that conflicting viewpoints cannot be reconciled on paper.

Britain's urgency about obtaining a settlement was due largely to the fact that at the end of the year it loses the Presidency. The chair will be handed over to Belgium and then to Denmark, neither of whom are pressing for change.

In addition, by March, when negotiations on agricultural price fixings are due, the Community will probably be locked into another year of high price policy.

Mrs Thatcher said on Friday that technical matters, such as aid for small farmers and price policies, should really be handled by specialist councils. That runs counter to all the philosophy which Britain expressed in the run up to the summit, when it urged operational guidelines and a timetable on this type of point.

A final hurdle for the big changes is due to be made at a special unofficial council of foreign ministers which is to be arranged. Failure could spell the end of the effort to restructure Europe's finances.

□ Athens: Mr Andreas Papanastasiou, the Greek Prime Minister, expressed optimism tonight that the future of the EEC and Greece's relations with it would be clarified by the time of the next summit in the spring (Mario Modiano writes).

He said: "Greece cannot remain in the Community under the present status because this will ruin national economic interests. But I hope it will be possible to establish a special status."

Genscher concern for the cohesion of Community

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn, Nov 29

Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, who is a leading campaigner for greater European unity, expressed deep concern this weekend about the state of the European Community.

"Europe is going through a particularly difficult phase in which the Community's capacity to act and its internal cohesion are seriously endangered," he said.

Europe needed personalities who resisted national egoisms and fought with determination for Community interests, he said at a function yesterday organised by his Free Democratic party in honour of Mr Gaston Thorn, the president of the EEC Commission.

Herr Genscher, the prime mover of the West German-Italian proposal for a Euro-

pean Act of Unity, added in an interview today: "There is no doubt that European consciousness must become clearer and that its capacity to act must be recognisable if Europe negotiations on agricultural policy to defend its interests."

The failure of the European summit in London to reach a solution on the budget and agricultural problems showed "that all of us must become more aware that a new European effort is necessary."

Europe must not see itself as a community of states in which each one tries to pay as little as possible into the till and get as much as possible out of it. "That is a complete misunderstanding of the process of European unity," he asserted.

Heath view, page 10

Selling the Voice of America like soap

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Nov 29

A secret memorandum which recommends that the Voice of America (VOA), the equivalent of the BBC's external services, should sell ideas the same way an advertising agency sells soap, has raised fears that the broadcasting network is to be turned into a propaganda arm of the Reagan Administration.

The memorandum, which recently found its way on to the pages of the Washington Post, was written by Mr Philip Nicolaidis, who has just been appointed VOA co-ordinator for commentary and news analysis.

Mr Nicolaidis, a former Texas radio commentator and writer for conservative publications, said it was necessary to recognise that the VOA was "a propaganda agency". Its job involved selling and "selling involves more than reasoning, it involves emotions; people buy the sizzle and not the steak" or the protection against "offending", not a bar of soap.

To deal with the Soviet Union's broadcast barrage it

was necessary, he said, to portray it as "the last great predatory empire on earth". He specifically advocated efforts to "de-stabilize" the Soviet Union and its satellites.

In a paragraph which appears to have caused particular offence to VOA journalists he said it was necessary to "reverse the tendency toward mush that flowered under the previous (Carter) Administration" and abandon the idea that VOA was a journalistic enterprise of some sort "with the standards of Mr Ed Murrow".

(The celebrated broadcaster who headed the VOA's parent body, the United States International Communication Agency (USICA), during the Kennedy era).

The Nicolaidis memorandum caused a furor among VOA staff actually in the Washington Post. At but three of the editorial staff who were on duty at VOA headquarters that day signed a memorandum calling on Mr James Conkling, the recently appointed director, to disavow the views and to cancel his appointment.

At a meeting with staff Mr Conkling re-affirmed his support for a 1976 charter which requires the VOA to broadcast "accurate, objective and comprehensive" news. "We are not a propaganda agency", he told the meeting, but refused to reconsider Mr Nicolaidis's appointment.

The Nicolaidis memorandum is the latest in a number of incidents which have fuelled speculation within the organization and within the American media as a whole that the VOA was having to move away from its hard won fight to resist political pressures from any administration.

Like the BBC external services, the VOA disseminates news, music and comment in a host of languages: each week it broadcasts a total of 900 hours to an audience of 80 million in 39 languages. Unlike the BBC, however, it has always been more closely associated with the United States Government than its British counterpart is with Whitehall.

Over the years it has managed to establish a far greater

degree of independence than when it spearheaded President Truman's campaign for truth against communism at the height of the Cold War.

Although there is no longer an official censor sitting in the newsroom, the VOA's daily commentaries are intended to reflect government policy and members of the staff have to be cleared by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

During his election campaign President Reagan pledged to use the VOA as a hearing room in a re-invigorated American campaign to resist the propaganda successes of Soviet and other communist broadcasters around the world.

As part of this campaign he made Mr Charles Wick director of the USICA and Mr Conkling head of the VOA. Both men have similar show business backgrounds. Mr Wick, a member of the President's "California Mafia" made a fortune in real estate, nursing homes and entertainment. He wrote the script and produced a film called *Snow White and the Three Stooges*.

Mr Conkling, a former music arranger for dance orchestras, once produced a musical with a patriotic theme, called *Threads of Glory*.

One of the first actions by Mr Wick was to initiate Project Truth, a campaign to identify and discredit Soviet "disinformation" and to disseminate unflattering facts about the Soviet Union. A memorandum explaining the campaign said the project would use all the resources available to the USICA.

Although senior officials have denied that VOA involvement in Project Truth would infringe its legislative charter for objectivity, it has nevertheless been regarded as a move to make its operation political.

Similarly, a proposal being considered by Mr Conkling to give the network's foreign language broadcaster more say in selecting and interpreting the news is regarded as an attempt to give broadcasts a more virulent anti-communist tone.

Arms negotiators face a long hard winter

From Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent, Geneva, Nov 29

Both superpowers have promised a serious and realistic approach to their talks about cutting the number of nuclear weapons in Europe which opens tomorrow in this international capital of peace and goodwill.

But the carefully processed words so far deployed have been cautious as well as hopeful and the two delegations are clearly settling in for a long hard winter.

Technically, the negotiations will start at 11 am when Mr Paul Nitze, the silver-haired veteran of American arms control (for and against) arrives at the Soviet Mission for an informal session with its opposite number, Mr Yuriy Kislynsky.

The two men and their chief aides (the American team totals about 20) will decide the schedule for their formal meetings, which are likely to begin on Tuesday.

If the delegations accept the procedures of the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT), they will meet about twice a week, alternating between the Soviet Mission and the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency offices in what is known as the Botanic Building—across the road from the botanic gardens in the tree-lined Avenue de la Paix.

The negotiations themselves have their origins in allied concern during the 1970s

about new Soviet weapons which were being developed for the European theatre. The most notorious was the SS20, which is not only more accurate and longer-ranged than the SS4 and SS5s it is replacing, but has three separate warheads and is mobile.

To counter weapons like this Nato agreed two years ago to station 572 new Pershing and cruise missiles in Western Europe.

The new missiles, however, were only one side of what were called a "twin-track" decision. The other offered the prospect of negotiating over such weapons.

So far, both superpowers have made preparatory offers which they know the other side can, and probably will, refuse. President Reagan has made his famous "zero options" proposal under which the Americans would scrap the entire package of 572 missiles if the Russians would agree to dismantle their existing 630 SS2s, SS4s and SS5s.

The Russians have gone one better. On his arrival yesterday, Mr Kislynsky, who at 45 has already won a reputation as a brilliant negotiator, repeated an earlier suggestion by President Brezhnev that they should ban all medium/intermediate range nuclear weapons in Europe.

'World's oldest' shrine found

Washington, Nov 29

Scientists of the University of Chicago say they have unearthed mankind's oldest known religious shrine—a cave sanctuary containing an altar-like slab and an unusual sculpted stone head fashioned 14,000 years ago.

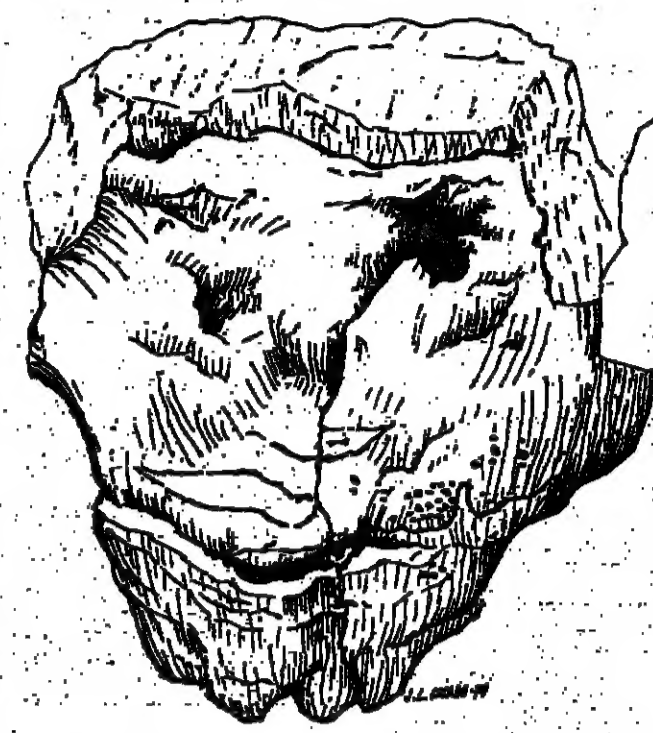
The well-preserved sanctuary, built in a cave by Stone Age men living in what is now northern Spain, also contained weapons, household tools and animal relics, they reported.

Dr Leslie Freeman and Dr Richard Klein, both anthropologists, discovered the shrine at the El Juyo cave archaeological site near the city of Santander. Dr Freeman said in a telephone interview that the find "is the oldest, intact, dedicated religious site we can prove in the world."

Evidence for religious belief goes back at least 50,000 years, he said. This includes cave drawings and gravesites offerings placed at Neanderthal burial sites. "However, almost all of this evidence deals with death, which is only part of a religious belief system," Dr Freeman said.

"At El Juyo, this site has nothing to do with death. Its symbolism is more universal and tells us about other aspects of the belief system."

"For example, the fact that hunting weapons were kept separate from sewing imple-



This face, half human and half animal, was hewn from a rock by Stone Age men some 14,000 years ago.

ments in the sanctuary strongly suggests that the difference between male and female roles in the material culture was also important to the religious ceremonies."

The stone head is a particularly significant find since it portrays a face that is half human and half animal. The scientists said a unique discovery for this era, the head is a sculpture is 14 inches tall, 15

inches wide and eight inches deep. The makers took a rock that had a natural vertical fissure and used this crack to divide the face. A horizontal crack across the lower part of the surface became the basis of a mouth on both sides.

On one side of the rock is the face of a smiling man with moustache and beard. On the other is the face of a cat with a moustache, whiskers and a single, pointed tooth.—AP.

Ceausescu seeks say in nuclear talks

From Dena Trevisan, Bucharest, Nov 29

With the Soviet-American talks beginning in Geneva tomorrow, President Ceausescu of Romania has reactivated his personal diplomacy behind the drive for nuclear disarmament. He has addressed letters to the Soviet and the American leaders appealing to them to do everything in order to attain this goal.

Romania does not want to be left out in the cold and leave to the big powers to go it alone.

To leave no one in any doubt about his personal power and perhaps also to divert attention from Romania's continuing economic ills, the Grand National Assembly, the Romanian Parliament, yesterday paid a personal tribute to President Ceausescu when it entrusted him with conveying the Romanian view to the Soviet and United States heads of state.

President Ceausescu's "great peace initiative" the Assembly's resolution said "evinces his high sense of responsibility for the fate of the nation and of mankind."

For weeks so-called peace demonstrations have been organized throughout the country. They clearly serve to demonstrate popular support for Mr Ceausescu's foreign policy at a time when there must be serious doubts about his domestic policy.

The failure of the economic policy, the report said, "has caused in all fields of life and the role his family is playing are clearly adding resentment to public frustration. So far, the failures have been blamed on cabinet ministers, and frequent government changes suggest that the scaregost tactics have worked so far."

Recently reports of labour unrest and even of violence in the coal-mining area were never confirmed, officially not reported in the press. Confir- mation of trouble came indirectly, however, when several high officials including the director of the mining industry in the Oltenia region were dismissed during last week's Central Committee meeting.

The meeting was described by Mr Ceausescu as "extraordinary for its harshly critical undertones. But he added in his closing speech that this was a sign of strength rather than weakness, and that the Western press would try to discover it in order to claim that "things do not go too well in Romania."

The debate, he said, was in fact evidence of democracy.

Foreign debt, page 15

ARAB INTERNATIONAL BANK



المصرف العربي الدولي

BALANCE SHEET

June 30, 1981 and 1980

(Expressed in thousands of U.S. dollars)

ASSETS	1981	1980
Cash and due from banks	37,717	33,793
Time deposits	939,834	897,729
Investments		
Marketable notes and bonds	68,012	54,458
Equity participations	29,051	29,160
Loans and advances		
Less provision	417,159	292,370
Accounts receivable and accrued interest	41,383	22,134
Property and equipment	26,017	23,244
	1,559,173	1,352,888
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Demand deposits	127,101	152,461
Time deposits	1,149,772	932,790
Accounts payable and accrued interest	42,850	36,055
Proposed dividends	15,000	15,000
Floating rate notes 1983	25,000	25,000
	1,359,723	1,161,306
Shareholders' equity		
Share capital	100,000	100,000
Statutory reserve	21,003	18,433
General reserve	73,997	68,567
Retained earnings	4,450	4,582
	199,450	191,582
	1,559,173	1,352,888
Liabilities under Credits, Guarantees and Acceptances	240,000	222,000

Mr. Hadi Mohamed Gitell
Managing Director

Dr. Mostafa Khalil
Chairman

مخازن الأوراق

The Important Privileges Enjoyed By The Bank Under The International Treaty Establishing It:

- Arab International Bank was established by an international treaty in 1974.
- By virtue of the treaty the Bank enjoys certain privileges in the territories of the member states (Shareholders) including:
 - Exemption from laws regulating banks, exchange control and auditing requirements;
 - Immunity from all forms of nationalization and seizure of shares in and deposits with the Bank;
 - Exemption from taxation and any obligations for the payment, withholding or collection of any tax or duty which may be imposed on its customers;
 - Confidentiality of customers' accounts with the Bank which are not subject to judicial or administrative distraining orders; and
 - Exemption from tax of any kind on any obligation or security issued by the Bank including any dividend or interest.

Head Office : 35 Abdel Khalek Sarwat Street, Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt
Cable Address : ARABINBANK
Telex : 92079 AIB — 92296 UNCON UN

Auditors:
Mostafa Shawkil F.E.S.A.A. Cairo
Hassan El Nasharty Chartered Accountant Cairo
Arthur Young & Company Regional Office Athens

Business as usual despite dead-heat Muldoon says

From W. P. Reeves, Wellington, Nov 29

The ruling National Party under Mr Robert Muldoon is determined to hold on to power in New Zealand after an inconclusive weekend election left the Government without a clear majority.

Recounts are underway after the vote in which the results could hinge on three marginal seats, one of which the Government holds by 16 votes only.

"We are ahead. We are the Government," Mr Muldoon, the Prime Minister, told supporters. He said he considered the results of Saturday's poll a victory, though his National Party lost five seats and won one back to finish with 46 seats, tied with the opposition Labour Party at 44 seats and the Social Credit League at two seats.

Because of the narrowness of some majorities, the Government could lose the provisional results. As well as winning the central North Island seat of Taupo from Labour by 16 votes, the National Party was clinging to Helensville — a semi-rural district near Auckland — with a reduced majority of 44.

At the same time Labour won the east coast city of Gisborne with a small margin of 96.

Mr Muldoon said it was business as usual for the Government. "We are going to go ahead with the growth strategy I put forward."

He would not be making any approach to Sir David Beattie, the governor-general, because there was no need to tell him that he would form a government. The question did not arise. He did not propose to summon parliament till next May and he expected to govern through the full parliamentary term until 1984.

The problem constitutionally could sharpen if Labour were to pick up one of the marginal seats when the final votes are in, leaving the House of Representatives equally divided between the main parties with 45 seats each.

After supplying a Speaker, the party forming the government would then be even more dependent upon Social Credit support.

In that situation Sir David might face some quandary as to whom to invite first to attempt to form a government. So far, however, Sir David, a former Supreme

Court judge who was appointed last year on the recommendation of the Muldoon Government, has declined to comment except to say he will await events.

Mr Muldoon said no accommodation was necessary with the Social Credit League, which holds the balance of power. Mr Bruce Beetham, the Social Credit leader, reinforced Mr Muldoon's optimism about continuing to govern by saying he could see no reason why the National Party should not form a government nor why the Prime Minister should resign.

He could not envisage Mr Muldoon calling another election as he would probably lose.

Mr Beetham has repeated earlier assurances that in a "hung" Parliament, Social Credit would exercise its power responsibly. It would not bring the government down on votes of supply or confidence. "The new balance will not lead to instability," he said last night. "There is no reason why it should unless the Government adopts intolerable attitudes."

The Social Credit movement with its cheap money policy has been on the fringes of New Zealand politics since the 1920s. Under the personable Mr Beetham it has broadened its appeal to encompass middle-class road policies, the championing of free enterprise, and opposition to heavy foreign investment.

In a poll in which the only feature of the high 90 per cent turnout was an absence of any uniform swing, Social Credit improved its voting share by four percentage points and emerged as second party in 18 constituencies.

Mr Wallace Rowling, the Labour Party leader, described the overall result as the worst possible option for the country. The Government would find it impossible to govern with 46 seats in the 52-member Parliament.

A residue of feeling over the controversial Springbok rugby tour influenced the poll, generally favouring the Government in the rural centres but telling against it in the cities particularly in the Wellington area where it attempted to force the Minister and two undersecretaries.

Compromise hint on Sinai peace force

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, Nov 29

The Israeli Cabinet, meeting today at the hospital bedside of Mr Menachem Begin the Prime Minister, decided to postpone for 24 hours its decision on whether to veto the participation of Britain, France, Italy and The Netherlands in the Sinai peace-keeping force.

The official reason for the delay was medical advice restricting the time that Mr Begin — who is recovering from an operation for a broken hip bone — could preside over the meeting. But there was speculation that ministers wanted more time to consider a last-minute compromise put forward by the United States in an attempt to avert the threatened veto.

The force is to be deployed in Sinai after Israel's withdrawal next year in terms of the Camp David accord.

A special Cabinet session will be held in Jerusalem tomorrow to decide on Israel's stand, but neither Mr Begin nor Mr Ariel Sharon, the Defence Minister, will participate. Earlier, Mr Begin had said he would personally propose a veto, because of European insistence on linking participation with the EEC's Venice declaration on the Middle East, which Israel opposes.

It is understood that the suggested compromise is in the form of a draft joint declaration of principle about the force which was hammered out in Washington Friday during talks between Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State.



Mr Shamir (left) in Washington with Mr Haig, with whom he had a marathon negotiating session.

Before this morning's Cabinet session in Jerusalem, Mr Begin, Mr Shamir and Mr Sharon held private talks to formulate Israel's stand. It is believed that the proposed statement will be presented to the Cabinet tomorrow with a number of amendments to the version which emerged from the State Department talks.

Although uncertainty still surrounded the threatened veto, there were signs tonight that Mr Haig may have at least succeeded in getting it postponed. But there was no guarantee that a statement

of principle on the lines demanded by Israel will be acceptable to Britain, France, Italy and The Netherlands, without a restatement of their original positions.

Israel radio indicated tonight that the government is hoping to restrict the statement to a simple affirmation that the force is being established in the context of the Camp David agreement.

In a radio interview Mr Shamir said his sudden visit to the United States had been to avoid a crisis in Israeli-American relations over

European participation in the 2,500 strong force.

The earlier urgency to take a final Cabinet vote had landed him in a coalition dispute, because he flew back to Israel on the Sabbath.

In another interview Mr Shamir said it would not be a tragedy if European or other countries did not join the Sinai force: it could operate without them.

Doctors said today that Mr Begin was making a good recovery after Thursday's fall, though he was said to have been in pain at today's Cabinet meeting.

Pro-Arab Israeli protesters arrested

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv, Nov 29

The Israeli army used force to disperse some 200 Israeli left-wingers who demonstrated in occupied Ramallah in support of the Palestinian cause. Dozens of tear gas canisters were fired into the crowd and truncheon-wielding soldiers and border policemen pursued the fleeing men and women into side streets.

Forty-nine demonstrators were detained. Six of them were taken to Jerusalem for further interrogation and the others were sent home at 3 am.

The protesters comprised Jews and Arab citizens of Israel, including professors and students of Israeli universities, who had organized the protest against the military government's closing down Bir Zeit, the largest Arab institution of higher learning in the country, after riots there.

In placards and pamphlets, the protesters also condemned the punitive dynamiting of homes in Beit Sahour and Bethlehem and the suspension of the PLO newspaper, *Al Fajr*.

The authorities had learnt of the planned demonstration and set up roadblocks on the approaches to Ramallah, but the protesters outflanked them using side roads. About a hundred assembled in Ramallah's main square and unfurled placards, reading "End the occupation."

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Police find six shot in Miami

Miami. — Six people were found shot dead apparently with automatic weapons, on Saturday night in a fashionable suburban home.

An anonymous caller told police that the bodies of the victims, including a baby, were at the ranch-style house. No drugs were found, but police said that automatic weapons were found strewn around the house.

Toxic oil is seized in Spain

Madrid. — Civil Guards in western Spain have seized a consignment of toxic oil and arrested two people who were alleged to have been preparing to ship it to Madrid, according to sources in the capital.

The guards were said to have confiscated more than two tons of the oil. Contaminated Spanish oil has already killed about 200 people since May.

Inca treasures in museum theft

Lima. — Police have detained more than 100 people in a big search for thieves who broke into Peru's National Archaeological Museum and stole 34 priceless gold and silver objects dating from the Inca period. Interpol has been alerted.

De Broglie case confusion

Four accused, but a whole system on trial

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Nov 29

No wonder justice is always portrayed blindfold. When the politicians, the police and even the judges all go out of their way to keep it in the dark, it does not have an easy task discovering the truth.

After four weeks of hearings, the only thing that is certain about the Broglie case is that the son of one of the leading aristocratic families of France, prominent politician, former minister and cofounder with M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing of the Independent Republican Party, was shot dead in broad daylight on a Paris street on December 24, 1976.

Even after the spectacular evidence given on Friday by M Michel Poniatowski, the Interior Minister at the time of the crime, and of all the leading members of the police hierarchy intimately associated with the investigation into the case, the reason why Prince Jean de Broglie was murdered is as unclear as ever. Nor is it any clearer who organized the crime.

The four men in the dock, including the one who confessed that he had actually pulled the trigger, appear increasingly as mere accessories or instruments in the murder. The officially stated motive for it, the wiping out of a debt of 4m francs (£370,000) lent by the victim for the purchase of a well-known Paris restaurant, no longer carries conviction with any of the parties to the trial.

The crime was no ordinary one. As one commentator wrote when the trial opened: "All bodies look alike. But they are not all of the same importance. The body of Jean de Broglie interested the very outset, the politicians, the police, and even the judiciary succeeded in turning it into one of the biggest politico-judicial affairs of the Fifth Republic by all conspiring to trivialize it and hush it up."

Four days after the murder, M Poniatowski had triumphantly announced to the press that the police had

cleared up the case and the culprits were under lock and key. France might have some of the most skillful police investigators in the world, but this haste in putting a lid on the affair was bound to be suspect.

Nearly four years later, the satirical weekly *Le Canard Enchaîné* disclosed that if the police had proved so efficient, the reason was that three months before the murder, they had known about the crime and the men who were planning it, thanks to the report of a reliable police informer.

The question which immediately sprang to everyone's mind was whether the Minister of the Interior, who controlled the police, had also known about these plans. Furthermore, why was it that nothing had been done to warn the victim and to take adequate steps to protect him? And why neither the minister nor the police had ever mentioned the police informer's report to the judge investigating the case?

M Poniatowski declared in court last week that he had only learnt about the report of the police informer four days after the crime. He had not mentioned it because he was sure the judge knew about it.

The judge investigating the case declared in court that once he had obtained the police report "by devious means," he had not put it on the official file of the case because he had given his word not to do so to the person who had procured it for him.

So for the past week, and doubtless for those to come, the Paris assizes hearing the case of the murder of Prince Jean de Broglie have been trying not the four men in the dock, who seemed almost strangers to the affair, but the liberties taken by politicians, police officers and even judges with the law they were supposed to serve, and the methods they felt entitled to resort to.

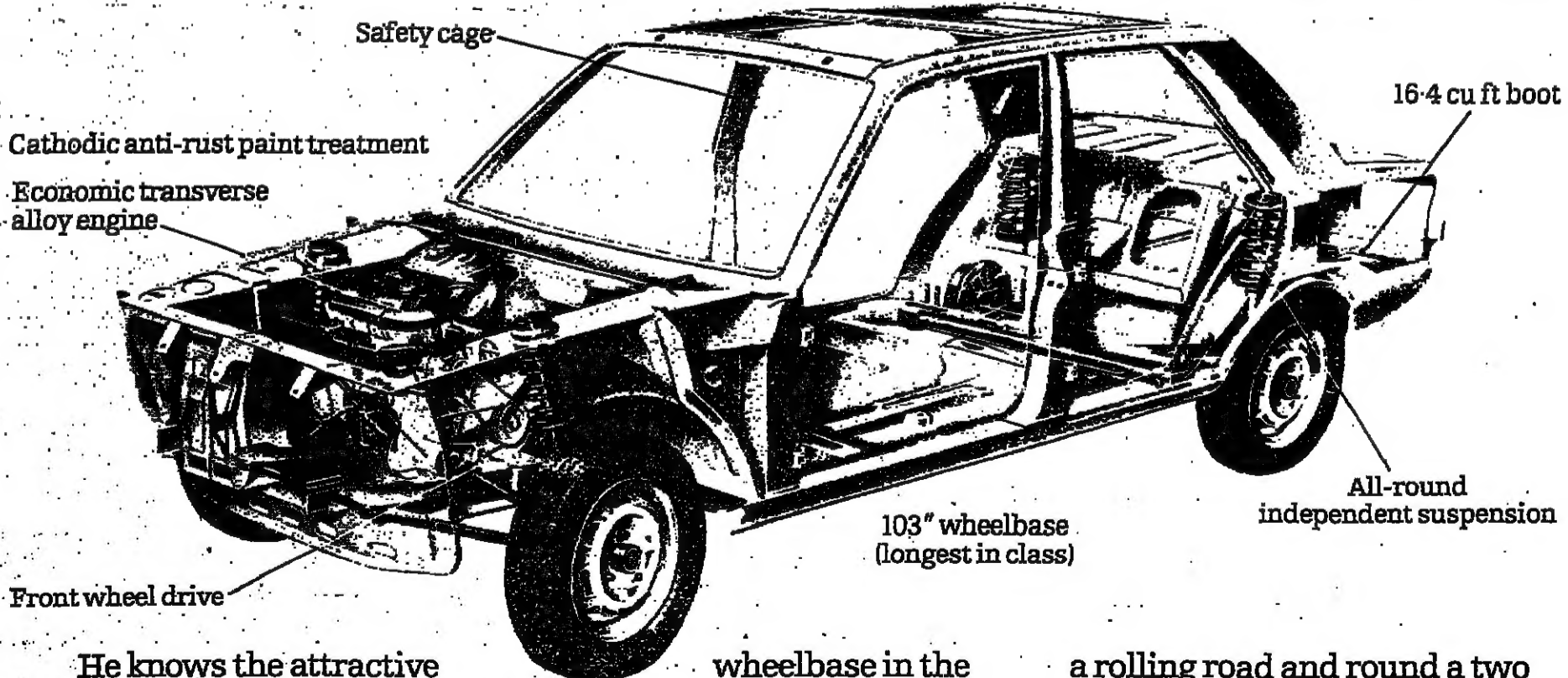
Danes fear stalemate

From Christopher Follett, Copenhagen, Nov 29

An opinion poll published today in the influential *Jyllands Posten* indicates little sign of an end to the political stalemate in Danish politics, where neither the left nor the right enjoy a workable parliamentary majority. But it does predict a clear swing towards the Conservative Party away from the ruling Social Democrats.



IT'S WHAT'S UNDERNEATH THAT PUTS THE PEUGEOT OWNER ON TOP.



He knows the attractive body hides a wealth of excellent mechanical features.

A transverse alloy engine, giving him lively and economical performance.

Front wheel drive for better roadholding.

All-round independent suspension and the longest

wheelbase in the class for a smooth comfortable ride.

Plus a large boot, a safety cage and a revolutionary new anti-corrosion treatment system.

No other comparable saloon is built like a Peugeot 305. Every single engine is checked three times, on a bench,

a rolling road and round a two mile test circuit. Over 12% of our workforce are in quality control, checking every part.

Yet having the best doesn't mean he has to pay more for it.

If you go to your Peugeot dealer he'll show you a quality car for the price of an ordinary one.

PEUGEOT 305
TAKE PRIDE IN PRECISION

PRICES START FROM £4,460. THE 305 RANGE OF SALOONS. 6 MODEL OPTIONS, PETROL AND DIESEL. For the address of your nearest dealer check Yellow Pages. Diplomatic, Nato and personal export inquiries Peugeot Park Lane, 63/67 Park Lane, London W1Y 3TE. Tel: 01-499 5533. Price correct at time of going to press.

Chad will recall Libyan troops 'if OAU fails'

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi, Nov 29

President Goukouni Oueddei of Chad signed a formal agreement yesterday, along with other African leaders, for an Organization of African Unity peace-keeping force to operate in Chad.

The OAU force is being formed to replace the Libyan troops who were recently withdrawn from Chad after pressure from African countries.

But President Goukouni, who had tried unsuccessfully to convince the African leaders here that the OAU force should be authorized to fight against his opponents, expressed reservations about its ability to control the situation in his country.

He told a press conference that he would not hesitate to ask the Libyans to return if the African force failed to live up to his expectations.

"If our young army does not manage to maintain order, and if the OAU hesitates, the Chadian government has the right to appeal to friendly countries for troops to put down the rebellion — and the OAU will not be able to say a thing," he said.

When asked if he would appeal to Libya or France for troops in such circumstances, President Goukouni replied: "Why not appeal to

Libya? We are not enemies, we are friends."

The meeting here, at which President Moi, chairman of the OAU, presided, ended yesterday with agreement on arrangements for the OAU force. Zairean and Senegalese troops have already arrived in Ndjamena, and are due to be followed by a larger force from Nigeria, which will also supply the force commander.

Benin and Togo are also likely to send troops, but OAU officials said they did not know whether Guinea would now contribute to the force.

The headquarters for the OAU force is to be set up by December 2. All troops are due to arrive by December 10, and they are to take up their positions — each contingent being responsible for a different area of Chad — by December 17.

Tripoli. — Colonel Gaddafi has declared that Libya will remain neutral if fighting breaks out again in Chad, according to the official Jams News Agency (AP reports). He said Libya would continue to offer Chad economic support for reconstruction and not abandon its people to be "victims of the United States, Western Europe and reactionary African or Arab countries".

Security stepped up around Mitterrand

From Our Correspondent Paris, Nov 29

In the past few days security measures have been stepped up around President Mitterrand, at his home in Paris and in his country retreat in the Landes.

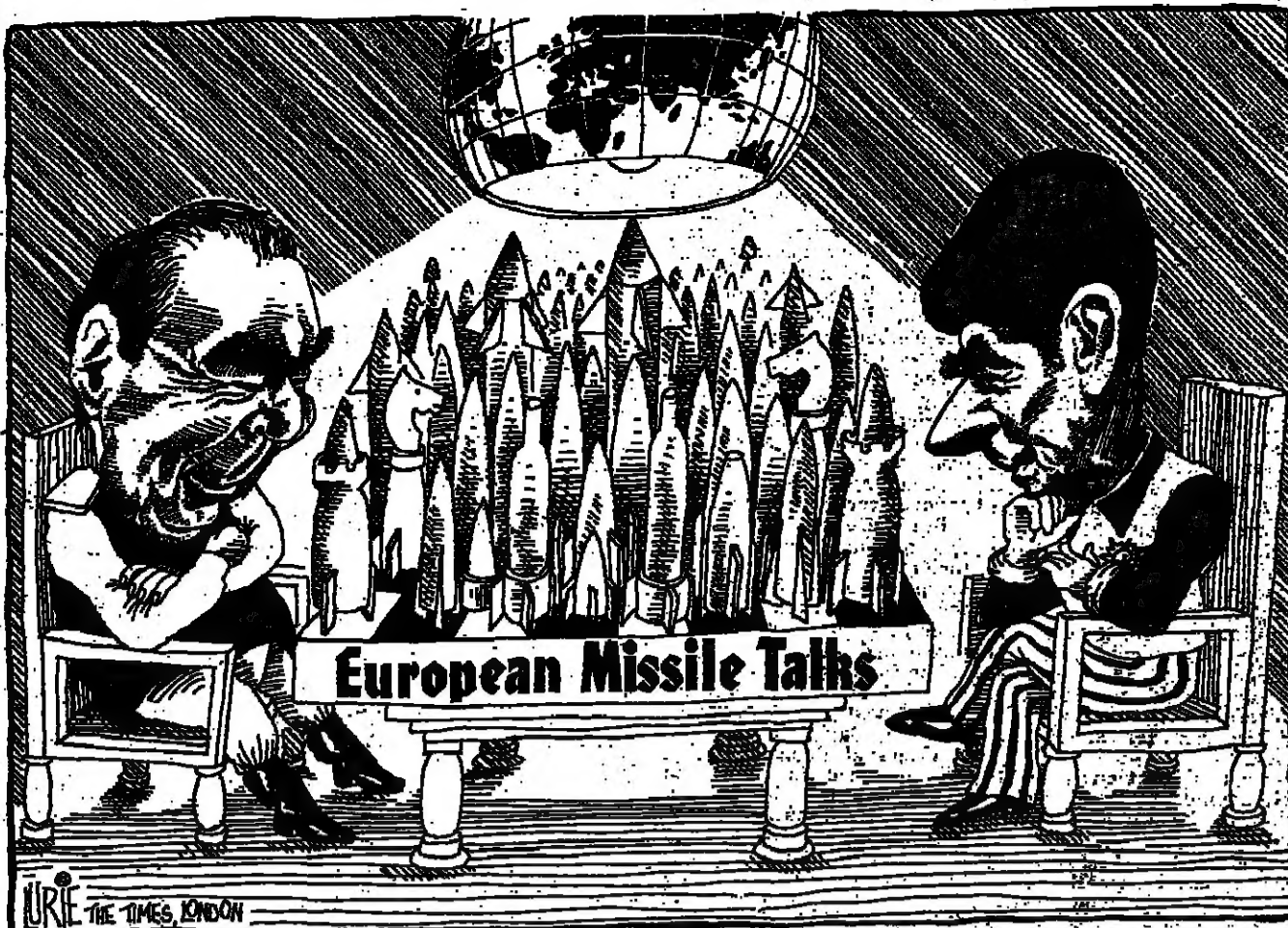
Several incidents recently have worried the President's guards. A week ago, in an assault on a reservist camp near Poix (south of Paris), a dozen masked men seized weapons after over-coming guards. They took their time choosing 113 machine pistols and four heavy machine guns. According to M Charles Hernu, the Defence Minister, the arms as in other reservist camps, were "neutralized" but could easily be made operational.

The Secret Army Organization Delta claimed responsibility for the raid. M Mitterrand is to start an official visit to Algeria tomorrow and Delta wants to prevent the handing over of archives, brought to France when Algeria was given independence. France promised to return the archives, which are said to be politically incriminating, and which have already aroused much controversy here.

Delta has already been heard of as a branch of the OAS (Secret Army Organization), which threatened to destroy the Algerian archives. Delta is also threatening "military actions" against French Government officials.

In addition to Delta, the recent activities at Algerian terrorist and right-wing organizations are re-grouping have disquieted those responsible for the President's safety.

But General Jean Saurin, who is in charge of presidential security, will not find his job easy. M Mitterrand considers the Elysée Palace as his office, returning nightly to his private residence in the Rue de Bièvre, a quiet street on the Left Bank.



Nowhere to move

Pretoria denies hand in Seychelles fiasco

From Michael Hargrave, Johannesburg, Nov 29

A deeply embarrassed South African Government has issued strong denial of allegations in black Africa and at the United Nations that it was involved in last week's failed coup against President Albert René of the Seychelles.

Mr Rieff Botha, the Foreign Minister, said it was no secret that "at least two dissident groups" existed which desired the overthrow of the present government of the Seychelles.

The South African Government had been approached "several times" by representatives of these groups "asking for assistance for their plans

and claiming to have considerable support for their cause in Africa and elsewhere."

"On each and every occasion their representatives were told categorically that it was the policy of the South African Government not to concern itself with adventures of this nature," Mr Botha's statement insisted.

Amid the welter of conflicting reports and rumours about the bizarre Seychelles affair, the few certainties are that the band of mercenaries involved in the attempted coup were recruited here and that about half of the 44 men being detained near Pretoria are South Africans.

The 44 were part of the mercenary group and hijacked an Air India Boeing 707, forcing it to fly them to Durban, where it became clear that the coup attempt had been bungled. They gave themselves up to South African police in Durban after five hours of negotiation.

Authoritative sources here have confirmed that Colonel "Mad Mike" Hoare, the mercenary leader of S Com-mando in the Congo civil war in the 1960s, is among those being held.

About 300 British tourists have been stranded in the Seychelles since the abortive coup (our foreign staff write).

While the British High Commission in Victoria was attempting to get in touch with the tourists, confined in their hotels because of the curfew, Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, assured the Seychelles Government of British support.

In London, Seychelles exiles claimed that they were behind the attack. "We backed last week's attempted coup with financial and other help," said Mr Paul Chong, spokesman for the group of 100 people living in Britain who oppose the present regime.

Strike ban powers sought in Poland

Warsaw, Nov 29. — The Polish Parliament (Sejm) is expected to be summoned into session in the next few days to debate legislation to combat the country's political and economic crisis, well informed sources say today.

It will consider what amounts to an order from the ruling Communist Party to grant the Government special powers which could include an outright ban on strikes and imposition of a state of emergency.

The Party's central committee said in a resolution adopted last night after a two-day session that extraordinary powers were indispensable to counter actions which threatened the very existence of Poland.

The resolution did not spell out the precise nature of the emergency powers, but it recalled that "successive attempts to restrict strikes had been ignored. Parliament has twice held back from a ban, since Polish workers won the right to strike in their August 1980 labour revolt."

Communist Solidarity reports at the weekend indicated that talks between them on the economic reform programme, due to go into effect next year, had revealed that the Government had made clear that it would not submit meekly to a law depriving it of the right to strike — Reuters.

Leaders of some 100,000 striking students called an emergency meeting today to discuss the situation. The independent Students' Association, which is coordinating the biggest student protest in the communist bloc, appealed to Solidarity for help and support for their strike. — AP.

[A new Solidarity weekly magazine, self-management, was launched last night. The agency IAP reported today. — AFP.]

Eanes cements African ties

From Jill Jolliffe, Maputo, Nov 29

President Antonio Ramalho Eanes of Portugal returned to Maputo last night after a two-day tour of central Mozambique. He visited the Cahora Bassa project in Tete Province, a \$2,000m (£1,000m) hydroelectric scheme which will supply southern Africa with most of its power.

The Cahora Bassa dam was begun before Portugal's 1974

revolution, but was not nationalized after Mozambique independence. Almost 87 per cent of its capital is Portuguese.

Tete Province has been worried by the activities of the Mozambican national resistance guerrillas opposed to the Frelimo Government, but President Eanes travelled in relaxed security conditions

revisited the Cahora Bassa project in Tete Province, a \$2,000m (£1,000m) hydroelectric scheme which will supply southern Africa with most of its power.

The Cahora Bassa dam was begun before Portugal's 1974

revolution, but was not nationalized after Mozambique independence. Almost 87 per cent of its capital is Portuguese.

Tete Province has been worried by the activities of the Mozambican national resistance guerrillas opposed to the Frelimo Government, but President Eanes travelled in relaxed security conditions

revisited the Cahora Bassa project in Tete Province, a \$2,000m (£1,000m) hydroelectric scheme which will supply southern Africa with most of its power.

The Cahora Bassa dam was begun before Portugal's 1974

revolution, but was not nationalized after Mozambique independence. Almost 87 per cent of its capital is Portuguese.

Tete Province has been worried by the activities of the Mozambican national resistance guerrillas opposed to the Frelimo Government, but President Eanes travelled in relaxed security conditions

revisited the Cahora Bassa project in Tete Province, a \$2,000m (£1,000m) hydroelectric scheme which will supply southern Africa with most of its power.

The Cahora Bassa dam was begun before Portugal's 1974

revolution, but was not nationalized after Mozambique independence. Almost 87 per cent of its capital is Portuguese.

Tete Province has been worried by the activities of the Mozambican national resistance guerrillas opposed to the Frelimo Government, but President Eanes travelled in relaxed security conditions

revisited the Cahora Bassa project in Tete Province, a \$2,000m (£1,000m) hydroelectric scheme which will supply southern Africa with most of its power.

The Cahora Bassa dam was begun before Portugal's 1974

revolution, but was not nationalized after Mozambique independence. Almost 87 per cent of its capital is Portuguese.

Tete Province has been worried by the activities of the Mozambican national resistance guerrillas opposed to the Frelimo Government, but President Eanes travelled in relaxed security conditions

revisited the Cahora Bassa project in Tete Province, a \$2,000m (£1,000m) hydroelectric scheme which will supply southern Africa with most of its power.

The Cahora Bassa dam was begun before Portugal's 1974

revolution, but was not nationalized after Mozambique independence. Almost 87 per cent of its capital is Portuguese.

Tete Province has been worried by the activities of the Mozambican national resistance guerrillas opposed to the Frelimo Government, but President Eanes travelled in relaxed security conditions

revisited the Cahora Bassa project in Tete Province, a \$2,000m (£1,000m) hydroelectric scheme which will supply southern Africa with most of its power.

The Cahora Bassa dam was begun before Portugal's 1974

revolution, but was not nationalized after Mozambique independence. Almost 87 per cent of its capital is Portuguese.

Tete Province has been worried by the activities of the Mozambican national resistance guerrillas opposed to the Frelimo Government, but President Eanes travelled in relaxed security conditions

revisited the Cahora Bassa project in Tete Province, a \$2,000m (£1,000m) hydroelectric scheme which will supply southern Africa with most of its power.

The Cahora Bassa dam was begun before Portugal's 1974

revolution, but was not nationalized after Mozambique independence. Almost 87 per cent of its capital is Portuguese.

Tete Province has been worried by the activities of the Mozambican national resistance guerrillas opposed to the Frelimo Government, but President Eanes travelled in relaxed security conditions

revisited the Cahora Bassa project in Tete Province, a \$2,000m (£1,000m) hydroelectric scheme which will supply southern Africa with most of its power.

The Cahora Bassa dam was begun before Portugal's 1974

revolution, but was not nationalized after Mozambique independence. Almost 87 per cent of its capital is Portuguese.

Tete Province has been worried by the activities of the Mozambican national resistance guerrillas opposed to the Frelimo Government, but President Eanes travelled in relaxed security conditions

revisited the Cahora Bassa project in Tete Province, a \$2,000m (£1,000m) hydroelectric scheme which will supply southern Africa with most of its power.

The Cahora Bassa dam was begun before Portugal's 1974

revolution, but was not nationalized after Mozambique independence. Almost 87 per cent of its capital is Portuguese.

Tete Province has been worried by the activities of the Mozambican national resistance guerrillas opposed to the Frelimo Government, but President Eanes travelled in relaxed security conditions

revisited the Cahora Bassa project in Tete Province, a \$2,000m (£1,000m) hydroelectric scheme which will supply southern Africa with most of its power.

The Cahora Bassa dam was begun before Portugal's 1974

revolution, but was not nationalized after Mozambique independence. Almost 87 per cent of its capital is Portuguese.

Tete Province has been worried by the activities of the Mozambican national resistance guerrillas opposed to the Frelimo Government, but President Eanes travelled in relaxed security conditions

revisited the Cahora Bassa project in Tete Province, a \$2,000m (£1,000m) hydroelectric scheme which will supply southern Africa with most of its power.

The Cahora Bassa dam was begun before Portugal's 1974

revolution, but was not nationalized after Mozambique independence. Almost 87 per cent of its capital is Portuguese.

Tete Province has been worried by the activities of the Mozambican national resistance guerrillas opposed to the Frelimo Government, but President Eanes travelled in relaxed security conditions

revisited the Cahora Bassa project in Tete Province, a \$2,000m (£1,000m) hydroelectric scheme which will supply southern Africa with most of its power.

The Cahora Bassa dam was begun before Portugal's 1974

revolution, but was not nationalized after Mozambique independence. Almost 87 per cent of its capital is Portuguese.

Tete Province has been worried by the activities of the Mozambican national resistance guerrillas opposed to the Frelimo Government, but President Eanes travelled in relaxed security conditions

revisited the Cahora Bassa project in Tete Province, a \$2,000m (£1,000m) hydroelectric scheme which will supply southern Africa with most of its power.

The Cahora Bassa dam was begun before Portugal's 1974

revolution, but was not nationalized after Mozambique independence. Almost 87 per cent of its capital is Portuguese.

Tete Province has been worried by the activities of the Mozambican national resistance guerrillas opposed to the Frelimo Government, but President Eanes travelled in relaxed security conditions

revisited the Cahora Bassa project in Tete Province, a \$2,000m (£1,000m) hydroelectric scheme which will supply southern Africa with most of its power.

The Cahora Bassa dam was begun before Portugal's 1974

revolution, but was not nationalized after Mozambique independence. Almost 87 per cent of its capital is Portuguese.

Tete Province has been worried by the activities of the Mozambican national resistance guerrillas opposed to the Frelimo Government, but President Eanes travelled in relaxed security conditions

revisited the Cahora Bassa project in Tete Province, a \$2,000m (£1,000m) hydroelectric scheme which will supply southern Africa with most of its power.

The Cahora Bassa dam was begun before Portugal's 1974

revolution, but was not nationalized after Mozambique independence. Almost 87 per cent of its capital is Portuguese.

Tete Province has been worried by the activities of the Mozambican national resistance guerrillas opposed to the Frelimo Government, but President Eanes travelled in relaxed security conditions

revisited the Cahora Bassa project in Tete Province, a \$2,000m (£1,000m) hydroelectric scheme which will supply southern Africa with most of its power.

The Cahora Bassa dam was begun before Portugal's 1974

3.48%

AFTER FIVE YEARS

The biggest ever guaranteed return of any National Savings Certificate

National Savings Certificates have always had a unique appeal to the lump-sum saver.

The return they offer over a five year term is guaranteed, even if, during that period, there is a fall in other interest rates.

The new National Savings Certificate, the 23rd Issue, is no exception. And the guaranteed return is the biggest ever: 64.8% after five years.

This is equivalent to a compound annual interest rate of 10.51% over the full term.

Every £25 invested becomes £41.20 and the £5,000 limit becomes £8,240.

New interim rates

If you choose to cash in the new Certificate before the completed term — this usually takes about a week — the interim

rates are the best ever, too. They start from 9% at the end of the first year.

Not a penny of tax to pay

The return is free of U.K. income tax at all levels, and capital gains tax. It does not even have to be declared on your tax form. Tax exemption of course is a considerable benefit and if for example you pay tax at the standard rate it makes the gross return equivalent to 15.01% a year.

*Similar tax concessions apply in the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Increase your total holding

The new minimum purchase is a unit of £25 and the maximum is £5,000. But you may hold this amount over and above any other National Savings Certificates you have, including the Index-linked issues.

If you are looking for a guaranteed, tax-free return from your lump-sum savings, you won't find a better proposition.

The new 23rd Issue National Savings Certificate is on sale at post offices and banks.

Pick up a leaflet for full details.



National Savings Certificates

Law Report November 30 1981

Domicile of pre-1974 wife

Inland Revenue Commissioners v. The Duchess of Bedford. Before Mr Justice Nourse. Judgment delivered November 26.

A woman, married before the Domicile and Matrimonial Proceedings Act 1973 and domiciled in England, who had acquired a domicile of choice in another country, was held to be domiciled in England at the time of her husband's death.

The Duchess of Bedford, who was married before the Domicile and Matrimonial Proceedings Act 1973 and domiciled in England, was held to be domiciled in England at the time of her husband's death.

His Lordship, allowing an appeal by the Duchess of Bedford, held that the Duchess of Bedford, who was married before the Domicile and Matrimonial Proceedings Act 1973 and domiciled in England, was held to be domiciled in England at the time of her husband's death.

The Duchess was born and had a domicile of origin in Quebec. In 1945 she married the Duke, then Lord William Cavendish-Bentinck, and thereby acquired a domicile of choice in England.

They lived in London but the Duchess always intended to return to Quebec should her husband predecease her or agree to go with her. She owned and kept for their use a house at Montserrat, Quebec. Every year she spent about two weeks there.

Mr W. A. MacPherson, QC, and Mr John Laws for the Crown; Sir John Foster, QC, for the Duchess.

MR JUSTICE NOURSE said that the Domicile and Matrimonial Proceedings Act 1973 was enacted to abolish "the last barbarous relic of a wife's servitude" — the domicile of

dependence. Section 1(1) placed women, marrying after the coming into force of the Act, in the same position as any other individual capable of having an independent domicile.

However, section 1(2) provided that a woman married prior to the Act and provided with a domicile of choice in another country should be treated as domiciled in England either on or after the coming into force of the section.

Thus the effect of section 1(2) was to re-impose the domicile of dependence as the domicile of choice, unless and until it is changed by acquisition or revival of another domicile.

The concept of an "imposed" domicile of choice was not one that was easy to grasp but the force of the subsection required it. Accordingly the Duchess was to be treated as if she had acquired an English domicile of choice, even though the facts established that that would have been impossible in the real world.

It necessarily followed that the question whether, after the Act came into force, the Duchess abandoned her English domicile had to be determined by reference to the test appropriate to the abandonment of a domicile of choice, namely, whether she had intended to reside there permanently or indefinitely, and not otherwise.

It was not disputed that the Duchess had ceased to intend to reside permanently in England, and that the corollary of her enduring intent to return to Quebec was the sole issue was whether she actually ceased to reside here after January 1, 1974. Residence in a country for the purposes of the law of domicile was physical presence in that country as a

resident, not as a visitor. It was necessary to consider whether the Duchess had intended to reside there permanently or indefinitely, and not otherwise.

MR JUSTICE NOURSE said that the Domicile and Matrimonial Proceedings Act 1973 was enacted to abolish "the last barbarous relic of a wife's servitude" — the domicile of

dependence. Section 1(1) placed women, marrying after the coming into force of the Act, in the same position as any other individual capable of having an independent domicile.

However, section 1(2) provided that a woman married prior to the Act and provided with a domicile of choice in another country should be treated as domiciled in England either on or after the coming into force of the section.

Thus the effect of section 1(2) was to re-impose the domicile of dependence as the domicile of choice, unless and until it is changed by acquisition or revival of another domicile.

The concept of an "imposed" domicile of choice was not one that was easy to grasp but the force of the subsection required it. Accordingly the Duchess was to be treated as if she had acquired an English domicile of choice, even though the facts established that that would have been impossible in the real world.

It necessarily followed that the question whether, after the Act came into force, the Duchess abandoned her English domicile had to be determined by reference to the test appropriate to the abandonment of a domicile of choice, namely, whether she had intended to reside there permanently or indefinitely, and not otherwise.

It was not disputed that the Duchess had ceased to intend to reside permanently in England, and that the corollary of her enduring intent to return to Quebec was the sole issue was whether she actually ceased to reside here after January 1, 1974. Residence in a country for the purposes of the law of domicile was physical presence in that country as a

resident, not as a visitor. It was necessary to consider whether the Duchess had intended to reside there permanently or indefinitely, and not otherwise.

MR JUSTICE NOURSE said that the Domicile and Matrimonial Proceedings Act 1973 was enacted to abolish "the last barbarous relic of a wife's servitude" — the domicile of

Where ignorance is a defence

Secretary of State for Trade and Industry v. Hart. Before Lord Justice Ormrod and Mr Justice Woolf.

Judgment delivered November 24.

Where a person was disqualified for appointment as an auditor of a company because he was already a director, secretary, or manager of that company he was not guilty of an offence under section 13 of the Companies Act 1976 unless he knew that he was disqualified.

The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, appealed to the Divisional Court by way of case stated against the decision of Mr Edward J. Branson, a metropolitan stipendiary magistrate at Wells Street, on April 7, 1981, that the respondent, Mr William Peter Hart, was not guilty of acting as an auditor of AMF Ashby Metal Fabrications Ltd and Angus Safety Equipment Ltd knowing that he was disqualified by reason of being a director and secretary of the first company and a director of the second company.

Mr Alan Moses for the Secretary of State; Mr William Peter Hart for the respondent.

MR JUSTICE WOOLF said that the respondent had acted as an auditor when he was disqualified was not in dispute. The only issue was whether he had the necessary mens rea to constitute the offence before the respondent consented

that he was in ignorance of the statutory provisions. The magistrate found that the respondent knew of the prohibition and so the mens rea was lacking. Accordingly the prosecution had failed to establish a case within the criminal provisions of section 13.

The Secretary of State was concerned with that view of the law. It was convenient to look first at the Companies Act as it was in 1948. Section 161(2) disqualified certain officers of a company from holding the appointment of auditor in the same company. Section 435 defined the term "officer" as including a director, manager or secretary.

That section disqualified the respondent from holding office as an auditor. It was not disputed that the respondent was disqualified by reason of being a director and secretary of the first company and a director of the second company.

Mr Alan Moses for the Secretary of State; Mr William Peter Hart for the respondent.

MR JUSTICE WOOLF said that the respondent had acted as an auditor when he was disqualified was not in dispute. The only issue was whether he had the necessary mens rea to constitute the offence before the respondent consented

that he was in ignorance of the statutory provisions. The magistrate found that the respondent knew of the prohibition and so the mens rea was lacking. Accordingly the prosecution had failed to establish a case within the criminal provisions of section 13.

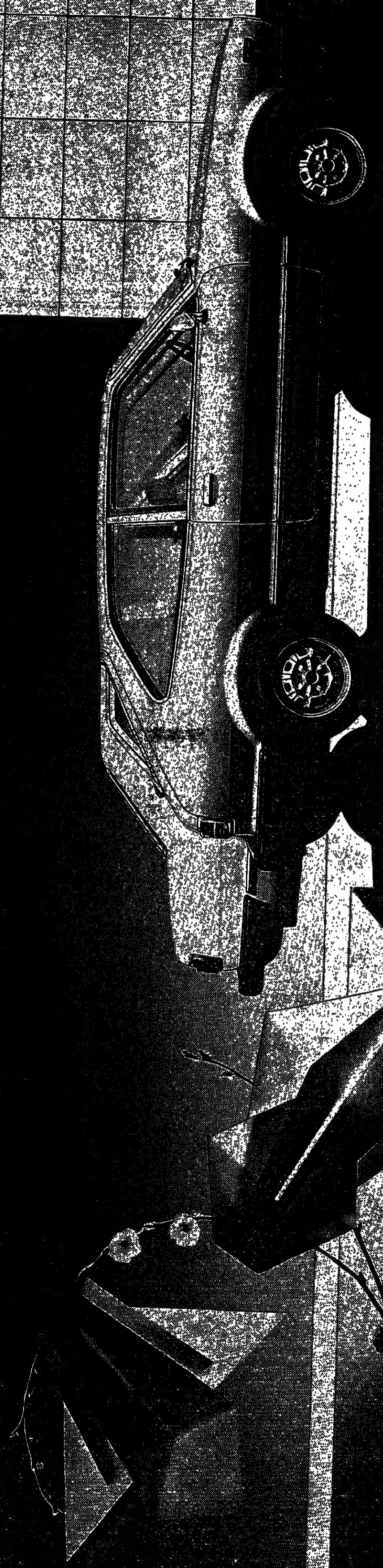
The Secretary of State was concerned with that view of the law. It was convenient to look first at the Companies Act as it was in 1948. Section 161(2) disqualified certain officers of a company from holding the appointment of auditor in the same company. Section 435 defined the term "officer" as including a director, manager or secretary.

That section disqualified the respondent from holding office as an auditor. It was not disputed that the respondent was disqualified by reason of being a director and secretary of the first company and a director of the second company.

Mr Alan Moses for the Secretary of State; Mr William Peter Hart for the respondent.

MR JUSTICE WOOLF said that the respondent had acted as an auditor when he was disqualified was not in dispute. The only issue was whether he had the necessary

Origami. The Japanese art of paper folding.



Honda. The Japanese art of car making.

HONDA

Made with pride, driven with pride.

HONDA ACCORD, 4 DOOR HATCHBACK AND 4 DOOR SALOON. FOR THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR NEAREST HONDA DEALER CONTACT HONDA (UK) LIMITED, POWER ROAD, CHISWICK, LONDON W4 5YU.

Why the doctor sometimes misses a trick

Today most people want more information and consultation when experts deal with them. Newspapers and television programmes help to explain what the experts are doing in every specialty — especially in medicine. Patients today want to know more about what a doctor is deciding when he is trying to help them.

Clearly the recipient of advice gains if they understand what is behind the words used, but the gains that increased knowledge can bring are being threatened by an increasingly mechanistic approach in some parts of medicine.

Medicine is not a precise science; doctoring is still the business of one human looking after another. There is a degree of inexactitude in medicine which places it somewhere between lawn mowing maintenance and dinghy sailing. It is no good expecting results in medicine which match those of servicing a television set.

Six main reasons explain why patients should not have unrealistic expectations.

There is no diagnosis for every symptom.

Try as he may, a doctor cannot always find a cause for all his patients' symptoms. Backache or abdominal pain deserve full investigation, but after all the tests have been done the doctor may still have to turn to the patient and say he has not found a cause. It may be some consolation that at least the patient has not got any of the diseases that the test would have shown up.

There is no treatment for every diagnosis.

For many conditions which doctors can identify, we have no effective treatment. We can treat the symptom by giving, for example, pain-relieving drugs or antiacid tablets, but the underlying condition follows its own course. Fortunately, many diseases clear up as unpredictably as they arrive, and the relief may be either temporary or permanent. The doctor can often help the patient by relieving symptoms until the disease clears up.

There are no certain cures.

Even when medical treatment is effective, the operation is performed or the drugs given only with the probability of improving the individual patient's condition. The body is not a simple machine; removing diseased parts or treating them with drugs does not always work. A treatment with an 85 per cent probability of working sounds good, and that is, indeed, a high cure rate, but the other side of the coin is that in 15 per cent of patients the treatment does not work. No treatment has a 100 per cent probability of cure.

Most treatments have some side-effects.

When a doctor interferes with the body by surgery or by giving drugs, he hopes that the benefits of what he does will outweigh its disadvantages. The greater the benefits and the fewer the side-effects, the better the treatment is, but no treatment is without some side-effects. Even a simple aspirin, taken for a headache, may damage the stomach and cause internal bleeding. The choice of any treatment involves the doctor balancing the chances of cure (or relief of symptoms) against the risks of unwanted side-effects.

Different doctors use different treatments.

In very few diseases is there a single treatment that stands out head and shoulders above all others. In most cases, there is a choice between treatments which work slightly differently according to the stage of the disease and the response of the individual patient. One of the arts of medicine is a doctor's ability to use his past experience to decide that in a certain patient treatment A is more likely to produce results than treatment B. Some doctors get better results than others.

People respond to treatment in different ways.

Our responses to drugs and to operations vary; sometimes these variations are minor but they can become major. For example, side-effects are commonly very much less marked in some patients than others; in such cases a doctor can press on with stronger doses of the treatment, thus producing a faster or a better cure. If side-effects are troublesome, however, less drug may have to be used so treatment may be less effective.

These factors may sound like truisms, but anyone trying to understand what is happening in medicine must bear them in mind. There are few absolutes and many relative factors; every time a patient consults a doctor, he should be weighing up the pros and cons of any method of therapy. Whether it is an operation for cancer, psychoanalysis, giving a course of injections, or all have advantages and disadvantages and all need matching to the group of symptoms which that individual doctor. We should not expect consistency from one patient to another or from one doctor to another — which is why a doctor cannot use his practice in the way that a lawnmower manufacturer can run his assembly line.

Geoffrey Chamberlain

Sir Alec Guinness had hung up George Smiley for the day. He opened the door to black patent slippers, a maroon cardigan and open shirt, visibly tired after a hard day's filming on *Smiley's People*, the sequel to *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy* which the BBC will broadcast in the autumn of next year.

He was snug in a room at the Connaught — a luxury provided by a brief appearance in *The Empire Strikes Back*. He had wanted no fee. His agent demanded a share of the profits; hence a healthy profit and a little self-indulgence when away from home.

At first he had said no interviews, "I'll speak on the telephone. But good manners overcame self-protection and he extended an invitation for a giggle evening talking shop. He was delighted that the Spanish waiter persisted in calling him Sir Alec. The interview stopped short of midnight. The next day was an early start and Smiley needed to run over his lines.

Where did he find the character of John Le Carré's retired spy-master? "There was first the book, obviously. Then John Le Carré wondered whether I wanted to meet someone. He denies that he knew Smiley on that man — oh, why mince words, you know as well as I do that it was meant to be the former head of M16, Maurice Oldfield, who's now dead. God rest his soul. Anyway, there were reasons for resembling physically and in manner, maybe.

"But I think it is a little unfair on Le Carré and on Oldfield to push that point. After *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy* I had very charmingly said 'I still can't recognize myself'. So he obviously knew what the game was. I didn't try to mimic him or impersonate him in any way. It's just that you nearly always pick up some little thing when meeting a person like that if you are going to play something in the same area."

George Smiley is the latest in a career-long parade of characters invented by Guinness which began in film at least with his portrayal of Herbert Focker in David Lean's *Great Expectations* in 1946. As the retrospective season now playing at the National Film Theatre proves, Guinness is perhaps the most versatile character actor that cinema has produced. This desire to find a permanent, comfortable role began on the stage.

"I think that that probably came when one was very young before the war, working in the Old Vic with Gielgud and places like that. Unless you were a matinee idol or a juvenile lead you were a character actor and you played a great variety of parts."

"After the war, when Olivier and Richardson invited me to go to the Old Vic I was delighted to be offered anything but I said I must please ask that you will give me a total variety of parts for these two seasons because I have no idea where my talent lies or if it exists any more. And they were as good as their word. They gave me a complete variety of parts and I still didn't know at the end where my talent lay."

His versatility and quiet acting style was a natural asset for film makers and he was quickly drafted into Ealing Studios, where, after *Great Expectations* and Lean's *Oliver Twist* (with Guinness as Fagin), he was offered a role in *Kind Hearts and Coronets*.

"I was offered one part. No, I was offered two, I think, and I did

The Times Profile: Sir Alec Guinness

Smiley looks back



Sir Alec Guinness: caught mimicking in the wings by a very great actor

not see the point of that. Either one or all the victims made sense. I sent a bold telegram saying 'wouldn't all eight be better? It was a rash moment.'

Playing eight English aristocrats who stood between Dennis Price and a fortune cemented Guinness's highly marketable talent. From then the Ealing Studios, under Sir Michael Balcon, built a succession of films around him: *The Man in the White Suit*; *The Lavender Hill Mob*; *The Ladykillers*. They were successful in Britain and became cult films in the United States.

"I think my part in the Ealing comedies has been grossly exaggerated. After all, there were other ones which were just as successful, like *Passport to Pinion*, which I wasn't in. There was no great sense of belonging at Ealing. There was for technicians but I do not think that actors were much wanted there, really."

Does he miss the passing of Ealing and the British film industry? "As always in films, people carry on too far, not seeing when the curtain has fallen. I certainly regret that there is virtually no British industry at the moment, but it is probably just as well that what there was has finished so that what starts again — as it inevitably will — is different."

"It is similar with the Old Vic. I think that it is very sad that the building is not being used. It is a lovely theatre. Lovely to act in. Obviously you must keep something if you can, but there is no use whipping up enthusiasm for something which doesn't exist. If there isn't a public for the Old Vic, we mustn't pretend that there is."

It was regular weekly visits to the Old Vic which convinced Guinness that he wanted to be an actor more than anything else. A small education allowance from his

father allowed him a meagre if independent life which barely left the 6d pocket-money he granted himself each week to take him to the theatre. He walked three miles there and three miles back from his lodging in Westbourne Grove.

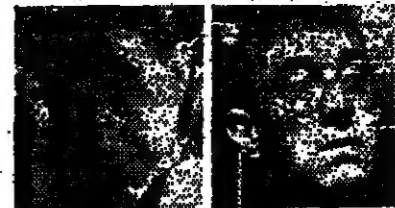
Failure at an advertising agency — "After my accident which left a hole in the front of the Daily Mail, they treated me gently, like an idiot" — led him to make a full-frontal assault on the acting profession.

"I didn't know Gielgud but I found his number somewhere and telephoned him. He was terribly nice on the phone. I would be bloody if anyone did that to me. He said I should go for voice lessons at someone like Marita Hunt. She'd be grateful for the money. Typically tactless remark. The man with a thousand faces."

His inspiration was not a lust for fame or money. The intrusion on privacy which being in the public

The career

The films of Sir Alec Guinness include: *Great Expectations* 1946 (debut), *Oliver Twist* 1948, *Kind Hearts and Coronets* 1949, *The Man in the White Suit* 1951, *The Ladykillers* 1955, *The Bridge on the River Kwai* 1957 (Oscar for best actor), *Our Man in Havana* 1959, *Lawrence of Arabia* 1962, *Hitchcock's The Last Days of 1973*, *Marlon Brando's The Godfather* 1974, *His films include: The Cockatoo Party* (New York), *Hotel Paradise*, *Ross, Dylan* (New York), *Wise Child*, *A Voyage Round My Father*, *Habemus Corpus*, *Yahoo* (which he also devised, in collaboration), *The Old Country*.



The Man in the White Suit (left), and Father Brown



As Lawrence in 'Ross', and the camp commander in 'River Kwai'



As Adolf Hitler, and George Smiley in 'Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy'

eye causes him, he describes as "torment". "When you set off becoming an actor, you never think of all that. You never think of the perks or the advantages. You never thought it would take you miles around the world and pay you handsomely. I just wanted to be someone else, to be in make-up, in disguise. I had no message to give to anyone. Just to be part of someone I thought was glamorous. Glamorous in quite a different way."

His ability to swap characters so easily, and so convincingly has given him the reputation of "the man with no face", a description which, along with "affluent", he finds a trifle boring.

"It is absolute nonsense. You cannot go up on the stage or be on the screen without a face. But they all decided to call me that a long time ago. I think Rank didn't know how to deal with a young middle-aged man going bald, and their publicity department called me 'the man with a thousand faces'. Then, suddenly, I became the man with no face at all."

"Someone wrote that I had a face like a wig block. I have a nose, eyes, very large ears. I think with some people I am inclined to go blank when I am not interested in them and I suppose my face goes blank as well."

He also takes exception — mild exception, of course. Sir Alec is a man of extreme moderation when it comes to emotions — to the charge of being merely a mimic. "I used to be a mimic, but I was young. But I was caught mimicking in the wings once by a very great actor, Leo Quatermain, and he said 'You must make up your mind whether you want to be a mimic or an actor' and I knew what he meant. Most actors enjoy mimicking, but wouldn't use it for

acting. Except for Peter Sellers. He was a genius at mimicry and a beautiful actor."

But mimicry remains in the Guinness armoury, an essential element of telling his elusively humorous stories. Describing the short queue to the Queen when being knighted in 1959, he apes the Yorkshireman in front of him, yelling with glee: "We're going to be knights! We're going to be knights!" and the Palace flunkie who greeted them on the bog. "You'll be wanting the bog. You all do. It's down there" as he slips into Cockney nonchalance.

He has always been very careful to change tack on each successive project. His films have ranged from his work with David Lean on *The Bridge over the River Kwai*, for which he won an Oscar, *Dr Zhivago* and *Lawrence of Arabia*, to *Adolf Hitler: The Last Ten Days*. And he has been at work with stage acting, building an effective rapport with Alan Bennett, in *Habemus Corpus* and *The Old Country*, and working on his own projects, such as the life of Dean Swift, *Yahoo*.

More recently he has appeared as the wizard Ben Kenobi in *Star Wars* and, of course, as George Smiley, a rare television appearance. He was so surprised by the success of *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy* that his loyalty to the team which had produced it led him to break with tradition and return to play the same role twice. "There won't be a third series. Or if there is, I won't be in it."

His judgment is impeccable. Even when agreeing to a dubious project like *Star Wars*, it is because he had confidence in the director, George Lucas's, ability to make something of a distinction between what he was asked to do and what he looked a mediocre script. Guinness has an enviable low failure rate, which cannot be said of other actor-knights.

"I can only conclude that they are very wise when suggesting thinking this is the last chance. I have of making a few thousand pounds. I cannot believe that they have done some of the things for sheer pressure for money. It can come out of a banality in a way. Or it is just the talk you into things, so often."

There is no end of work for Guinness, now aged 67. He finishes shooting on *Smiley's People* just before Christmas and, after a pause, will start shooting a film in the new year. In between he will return to his three dogs (Walter, Dorcas and Bluebell), his wife's two goats and the house designed by his brother-in-law in ten acres of land near Petersfield in Hampshire, there to fight a campaign against a section of the Winchester by-pass which will come within 50 yards of his home.

He has no grand ambitions. He was asked to play King Lear next year in the BBC Shakespeare series, but his idea of playing the mad king as Tolstoy — an idea he later discovered, which had first been suggested by the playwright — was thought unsuitable and the project collapsed, as did a floating idea for a revue with Alan Bennett based on the relationship between father and son.

But, since *Star Wars*, he has had a number of offers from America to play the role of the mythical wizard. "A couple from San Diego invited me to stay with them for a month to sort out their marital problems. I declined, of course."

Nicholas Wapshott

The National Film Theatre season of films featuring Sir Alec Guinness continues until December 12.

BARBADOS & TRINIDAD BWIA Executive Class Cabin. A class of its own.



When you're travelling on business, those little luxuries like a separate check-in, and a separate cabin to relax in, become necessities. BWIA's Executive Class Cabin is the answer.

In addition to the check-in and cabin facilities, we offer express baggage, free headset, and free drinks — with excellent in-flight service. But we also offer an important extra — convenience.

The convenience of a Saturday or Sunday flight to Barbados or Trinidad, in wide-bodied

TriStar comfort, so you can spend as little or as much of the weekend in the Caribbean as you want. The convenience of earlier departure times and better onward connections with Tobago, Caracas, Guyana, Grenada, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Miami, New York and Toronto.

If you're important enough to travel for your company, then you're important enough to have things made easy for you. And that's what we're here to do.

Getting down to business in the Caribbean.



Head Office: London
Airways Corporation

BWIA, 20 Lower Regent Street, London SW1. Tel: 01-754 2796 for reservations or see your local travel agent.

Nurse McCulloch dispenses a second best-seller

The publishing sensation of the 1970s was *The Thorn Birds* — it went for \$1.99, nearly 600 pages of an Australian family saga stretching from 1915 to 1969. "Who is this woman?" cried the publishing world, never having heard of Colleen McCulloch, and not having read the book. Colleen McCulloch found her life turned upside down. The manager of a research laboratory at Yale found herself an instant celebrity.

The Thorn Birds sold more copies than any other novel in the last 10 years. Now for the second difficult feat — the book after the best seller. *An Indecent Obsession* (Macdonald, £6.95) is utterly different — it is short, concentrated in one place, a hospital ward, without any descriptive passages, and with a powerful woman, a nurse in charge of a ward of soldiers discharged from the army at the end of the war with "psychological" difficulties.

Just off the plane from New York, but un-jet lagged ("I'm an Australian — and it's so far from Australia that the Atlantic is a foot"), Colleen McCulloch has just done the American publicity round, pointing out that there's nothing new: "Charles Dickens flogged his books in the most unspeakable conditions not only up and down the British Isles but also right across America."

She feels she owes it to her publishers to make the book sell, though taking only a very small advance, so as to leave herself free. This is her third novel. "I made \$50,000 out of *Thorn*, which wasn't bad for a first novel, and I thought I'd always be a middle of the road, modest selling, respectable novelist" and she gives a great roar of laughter, because it didn't happen.

The publishing world went gaga, and so did the press: "Miss McCulloch, shortly, 'but everybody made money out of *Thorn Birds*, which was great.' Faced with the prospect of having to go on writing the same book for ever, she decided to change. 'When you produce a book which is well loved — and people do love it — it's a very hard



Colleen McCulloch: hooked on hospitals

book to bury. Perhaps I'll never be able to bury it."

A child of the Depression, she always wanted to be a writer, but realized that she would have to have a bread and butter job. She got a degree at Sydney University, and went to work in neurophysiology in a hospital, and got to the top of her profession "still chronically underpaid."

She had a grim and realistic vision of her future: "I knew I would have to go home and look after mother when I was 50, and try to hold down a job at the same time — then at 70 I'd be living in a cold-warmer, walk-up apartment, just about able to afford a 60-watt light bulb. If you're not married, that's your fate. I'd never have been able to buy a house; that's why I have three or four of them now. It's a collective race memory, the desire to own a bit of turf — and they can't take the house — one of them at least — off me."

At Yale she had been working for seven years or so, and going through 10 drafts of *The Thorn Birds*, without letting anyone know

that she wrote. "I was pigeonholed there, everyone knew me, so I threw this book down on the conference table at afternoon tea the day it was published."

"It was a shock to everybody, and some of them didn't take it too well — I had grown another head, and they didn't know what to do with this Hyde. I was also having this mad love affair with somebody at Yale, which wasn't working out, and so I decided to quit, still not realising that I would be able to support myself by writing. The \$50,000 I earned from my first novel had mostly gone on my father's debts after he died."

"I wanted to do something different, so I applied to Barts in London to train as a nurse, and they accepted me. I had a long professional career, I was 39 — and I wanted to get back to the hospital again. I've been hooked on hospitals since they took my tonsils out when I was five. It is a place of enormous drama and fascination, the place where the facade is stripped off."

Then the best-selling saga began, and "I lost my anonymity, and you can't possibly work in a hospital if you are a celebrity, however minor or major, so I had to give it up."

She did publicity for the book for two years, all over the world, built a house in New Haven, Connecticut, but everyone knew where she was, and she never had a moment's peace to write. Now she lives on Norfolk Island, 1,000 miles off the east coast of Australia, on the same latitude as Brisbane. ("It must be the most expensive air fare in the world") and the small community has accepted her, after an uneasy six months or so.

"It isn't what you are, it's who you are in a place like this. It's incredibly beautiful and peaceful and remote, and I live on my own with two cats in a delightfully old maidish existence. I get a heck of a lot of work done because there is nothing much else to do."

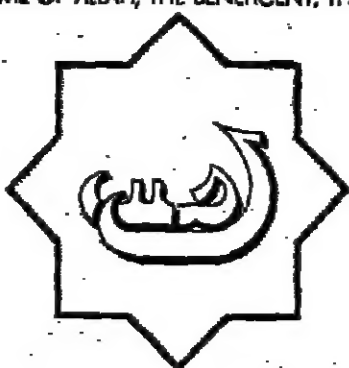
An *Indecent Obsession* came from a novel written a long time ago ("I generally spend about 20 years on something — the first 19 are purely mental") which was concerned with six men on a Greek island dependent on one woman — she can't remember the plot, and she's burned the manuscript. Later she reread it and turned it into a short story, set in a mental hospital.

"*Thorn Birds* was my best, at an epic, and the next one is to be a biographical novel, about a woman who learned to fly in the 1930s, ferried aircraft in the war and then searched for flying jobs, seldom getting them 'because the world is full of pilots out of a job and they are a real mess.' It is, she says, a love story without a hero, or a happy ending, the love object an experience, not a person.

Another obsession, perhaps? Just what was the indecent obsession? It was, in Wordsworth's description, the stern daughter of the sky. The American grapevine says: *An Indecent Obsession* will shortly be No 2 best seller. Miss McCulloch isn't going to miss a trick this time either.

Philippa Toomey

IN THE NAME OF ALLAH, THE BENEFICENT, THE MERCIFUL



Opening of the Public subscription in the increase of the Capital of

DAR AL-MAAL AL-ISLAMI

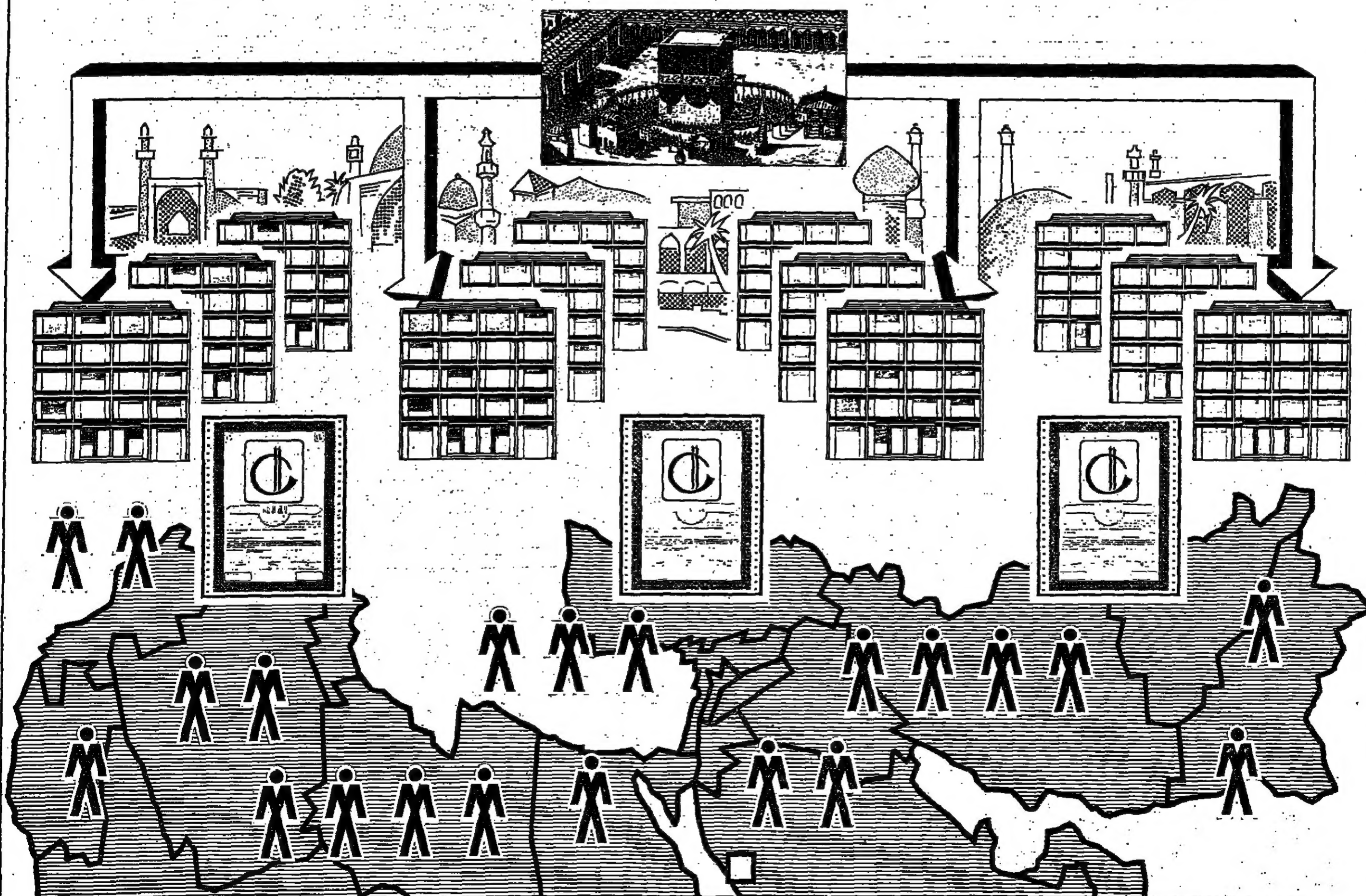
Bahamas

Authorized Capital US\$ 1,000 Million First Phase subscription US\$ 200 Million

- DAR AL-MAAL AL-ISLAMI has been established to alleviate the plight of "Riba" which plagued the Islamic Nation, "Believers have fear of Allah and waive what is still due to you from usury, if your faith be true; or war shall be declared against you by Allah and His Apostle. If you repent, you may retain your principal, suffering no loss and causing loss to none" Truthful is Allah the Magnificent. "He who alleviates a plight that afflicted the Muslims, would be rewarded the equivalent of a hundred martyrs." Truthful is the Messenger of Allah.
- To achieve the integration between the financial sources and the development capabilities of the Islamic Nation (Umma) and to achieve prosperity to all Muslims.
- To provide the opportunities to Muslims to perform their transactions in accordance with the rulings of the Islamic Sharia, where their activities in banking, investment and Solidarity are run by the most up-to-date methods in management.
- To lay the foundation for the future of our children, where they can practise the teachings of Islam in their daily life.
- To enable the shareholders and depositors in DAR AL-MAAL AL-ISLAMI to realise profits, by Allah's Will.

DAR AL-MAAL AL-ISLAMI'S ACTIVITIES ARE WITHIN THE ISLAMIC NATION (UMMA) TO ESTABLISH:Investment sector
(Islamic Investment
Companies)Islamic Solidarity
sector (Islamic
Solidarity Companies)

Islamic Bank sector

Islamic financing
companies sector
for specific enterprises**United Arab Emirates**

Sharjah P.O. Box 6129
King Faysal Street
SHARJAH - Phone: 353075-6
Telex: 68595-6 asas

Abu Dhabi P.O. Box 7667 - Airport rd
Opposite Central Hospital
ABU DHABI
Phone: 337650

To the Arab Brothers

For further information please contact
the Offices of His Royal Highness Prince
Mohammad Al Faysal Al Saud in the
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

How to make the next summit show results

by Edward Heath

If the European Community is to grow in internal cohesion and international stature, its supreme political authority, the European Council of heads of state or government, must be able to produce more than disagreements or platitudes. The failure of the Council's meeting in London last week to settle on solutions to the major problems of agriculture and finance which beset the Community has given added urgency to the question of how the effectiveness of this crucial institution can be improved.

When the European Council was established as a regular event in 1973, it was seen as the only way to inspire the Community with a bold vision for the future and to create the political guidelines by which to turn this vision into reality. Although the Council was not conceived as a body for taking decisions of a detailed technical nature, it was most definitely not created to be the test-party chat into which it has often degenerated.

Practical experience, however, has shown that it is an illusion to believe that the European Council can leave all technical issues to ministers and officials. Many of the great tasks which face the Community today — monetary integration; industrial cooperation; the creation of a common energy policy; the development of more efficient common agricultural policy; budget reform — turn on the resolution of technical issues which involve decisions of a highly political nature. Often only heads of government have the authority to take these decisions.

Yet it is becoming increasingly clear that the European Council is, in general, failing to play either of these roles. With three notable exceptions — the launching of the European Monetary System in 1979, the reso-

lution on the Middle East at Venice in 1980 and the temporary settlement on Britain's budget contributions — it has failed either to take practical decisions or to provide a bold vision for the future.

I do not believe that the Council's disappointing record is a result of any serious defect in its institutional structure. To be sure, there are reforms which might modestly improve its effectiveness, such as creating direct links between it and the European Parliament and strengthening its responsibility for coordinating policy and the work of the Community's other institutions. Yet there are three other reasons for its ineffectiveness which are of far greater importance.

First, individual meetings of the European Council have all too often dealt almost exclusively with one major issue, such as financing the budget, in which one country's failure automatically meant another's loss. This is understandable. Not only are individual issues complicated enough in their own right, technically and politically, they also occupy the two days which are allocated to Council meetings. However, given the paucity of results from an immense expenditure of time, effort and political capital by heads of government at a succession of Council meetings, one must ask if it would not be wiser to aim to solve more than one issue at a time so that the "losers" in one area of policy are in a position to be "winners" in another.

Second, the European Council has been held hostage to the pace of the slowest member state. Yet there are tasks for the Community, such as cooperation in the development of high technology industrial products, in which progress can be made without the assent and participation of all member states. That is another reason why the European Council needs to pursue an industrial policy

less time to deal with the problems it is currently tackling if additional ones were to be considered as high priorities. But if these additional issues were to make possible a more balanced outcome to Council negotiations, in which no country is required to make a major concession in return for nothing at all, this is surely an approach which ought to be tried.

It is also essential for the development of public support for the Community that its leaders should devote more visible attention to issues of high technology competition in high technology sectors from the Americans and the Japanese.

This, in turn, could help once again to inspire the Community with a bold vision for the future. Those on the left who, while not ideologically opposed to the Community itself, have become disaffected by its failure to be more closely attuned to their perspectives and ideals.

That leads to the second reason for the Council's disappointing record. It is that the major issues which it has dealt have tended to be of a technical nature, to touch the vital interests of all countries in the Community. All progress has therefore been held hostage to the pace of the slowest member state. Yet there are tasks for the Community, such as cooperation in the development of high technology industrial products, in which progress can be made without the assent and participation of all member states.

That is another reason why the European Council needs to pursue an industrial policy



Mrs Thatcher (with the Luxembourg Foreign Minister, Madame Flesch) at the London summit: there was never any chance of concessions to Britain.

as a high priority. While the principle of equality between the member states must be maintained, those which wish to forge ahead in the construction of the Community cannot indefinitely have their hopes and ambitions frustrated by others whose visions of Europe or concepts of sovereignty are wholly unable to accommodate such progress.

That leads to the third major obstacle to progress. It is the legacy of hostility which has characterized Britain's bargaining tactics in recent years, coupled with our continuing lack of interest in major European initiatives except in foreign policy and the removal of some barriers to trade between the member states.

As I learnt at Strasbourg the week before last, the other members of the Community were certainly not prepared to reach agreement with Britain on matters primarily affecting us, at a meeting under British chairmanship because of the way they had been treated at the 1979 Dublin summit and during other budget and CAP discussions.

We could have achieved so much more, for ourselves and for the Community as a whole, had we shown whole-

hearted interest in its development and welfare. For example, a strong British lead in creating a more effective common energy policy, including more generous arrangements for the preferential supply of North Sea oil to our Community partners at times of temporary shortfalls in supplies from elsewhere, would greatly increase their good will towards us in negotiations as well as being in our own economic interest.

The same is true for Britain's membership of the European Monetary System, which is politically and economically a priority of the greatest importance. Yet at last week's European Council a British government again failed to understand this logic, although our chairman-ship of the meeting gave us a unique opportunity to take initiatives of this kind.

The disappointing history of the European Council is not a sign that its importance has been overestimated or that it should be downgraded. On the contrary, it is the major potential driving force of European integration. That is why it must be given the wherewithal to play the role which since its inception history has assigned it.

© Times Newspapers Limited, 1981

This week a Labour MP will try to introduce a Bill to allow the eldest child of the sovereign to accede to the throne irrespective of sex. Bel Mooney considers the implications.

Nothing succeeds like succession

There is an eighteenth century print which shows two midwives bustling into the elegant drawing-room where a father-to-be is waiting. "C'est un fils, Monsieur!" is the happy cry, and Monsieur is throwing up his arms with joy — which is a little strange since the babe displayed cannot be less than three months old. The son and heir: *Ecos Puer*. This tiny continues in maternity wards up and down the land, a boy, say, ensuring continuity. Most families can indulge their patrilateral longings in private; land and title complicate the issue; but when we are forced to consider the succession to the British throne, we find ourselves, not surprisingly, knee-deep in statist prejudice.

Certainly that is the view of the Member for Nottingham West, Michael English, who is proposing a Private Member's Bill which will seek to bring our law of succession into line with that of Sweden, where, since 1979, the right of accession to the throne has passed to the eldest child, irrespective of sex. Strictly speaking the term princegeniture should imply just that — the right of the firstborn, just as ultimogeniture used sometimes to favour the youngest child. But in practice this system of inheritance gave land and title to the primogenitus — the firstborn male.

Needless to say, Michael English is not unaware of a certain impending happy event. He has timed his onslaught to coincide with the pregnancy of the Princess of Wales, saying that he believes in equality of the sexes and that, despite the many equalities that exist, this one is the hardest to change. Ensure the right of Prince Charles's firstborn to the throne, whatever its sex, and we will create a better climate in which to further the general cause of women.

Why should it be the hardest to change? Surely, if the Princess of Wales were to produce three or four daughters, all as charming as herself, few would publicly bewail the lack of a son. But the old common law of primogeniture is not about personalities. It throbs deep in the feudal memory of the nation — when decreeing that lands and titles must pass to the eldest son simplified matters, prevented the great estates from being broken up, and ensured that the noble who they were dealing with.

Political expediency then — but more. The assumption of Demosthenes ("One thing is admitted, that males and the issue of males have the first title to inheritance...") was chosen in the *Leger Saxonum*: "On the death of the father or mother the inheritance goes to the son, not the daughter..." Under Saxon Law no woman could ever inherit (which is why the crowns of Great Britain and Hanover became separated when Victoria became Queen). By the late Middle Ages we sense a need to justify: "Because women lose the name of their ancestor, and by marriage usually transferred to another family, they participate seldom in heirship with males." It is left to John Knox to put it plainly: "The holy ghost doth manifestly say: I suffer not that women usurp authority over men."

Yet though the monstrous regiment of misogynists have much to say on the matter, I turn to feminist authorities (de Beauvoir, Greer, Rowbotham, et al) in vain. They would probably argue the issue is peripheral — that we should do better to agitate for the abolition of the monarchy, than for an extension of the rights of princesses. Perhaps — but then we should miss a good opportunity to reform by stealth and example. Michael English has, enterprisingly, disinterred one issue which both women's rights and those who are interested in the preservation of the monarchy should take seriously.

Both arguments — hinge upon symbolism — that which the republican may dislike, but which he/she cannot deny. To take first the feminist issue of simple equality — how can we, as a nation, think it enough to write equality into the statute book, yet ignore that symbolic inequality at the heart of our constitutionalism? — is it possible — with the magnificent reign of Victoria still in living memory, with Elizabeth II upon the throne and with a popular young Prince of Wales to boot — that we can still acquiesce in the nonsense that would set that baby aside in favour of a subsequent child, if she is a girl and he a boy? Imagine if Prince Charles were to have three daughters, then, after a long gap, a son. Is it just that the eldest girl should be brought up as heir to the throne — only to be told, one day, "Charles and this is why we have been waiting for — sorry, Your Royal Highness, you just won't do?" Michael English argues that to change that would reverberate right through our "mask of anachronism" — and I think he is right.

Those who fear the rule of women but love the monarchy should reconsider their prejudice

As for the diehard patriots — well, I suspect that with one woman reigning and another ruling, with Mrs Williams waiting, and with the terrible possibility that the Prince of Wales might produce a primogenitus — a little epidemic of that common disease (known specially to gynaecotrophobas) called "swamp fever" might sweep the clubs. But those who fear the rule of women yet love the monarchy should reconsider their prejudice.

Why give ammunition to those who say that the institution is out of date? We have seen thrones topple; we have witnessed the rise of democracy with Hitler, Mussolini, Stalin, Franco, Nasser, Sukarno as just a few shining examples; the presidency was diminished forever after Watergate.

Republicans may be right to call our monarchy anachronistic; what matters is that most people would prefer it to any other system. Yet the health of the monarchy can be judged by its ability to shift, imperceptibly with the time, its "walkabout" — symbolically necessary as the golden coach.

It would suit the republican's purpose well if British conservatism were to defeat Mr English's Bill. Then the finger of derision could be pointed at the Palace and the tumbrel wheels well oiled — no more proof needed that the institution has outlived itself. It is an interesting thought, feminists (pink and purple) with monarchists (blue) to demand the commonsense equal rights for the Queen's grandchildren that we should all expect for our own.

And that is going to entail readjustment of property, and names, and money particularly money, that will take us back to Genesis and keep the lawyers in business until the Last Trump.

Philip Howard



Lord Harcourt: Covent Garden instead of the Palace

He who would now be King

If succession of the oldest child regardless of gender were applied retrospectively to our monarchy, we should now be ruled by King George VI — George Harwood, that is.

The Queen would be Queen Patricia, not Bambi, I think. The Prince of Wales would be a 31-year-old Prince David. And Covent Garden and the opera houses and festivals of the United Kingdom would be basking in golden royal patronage. Our present Prince of Wales would be The Hon. Charles Mountbatten, son of Admiral and Lady Elizabeth Mountbatten.

Before King George VI, the monarch had been ruled by Queen Mary II, The Princess Royal, the eldest child of George V. If Parliament had passed the appropriate Bill (improbable), her husband would have been the Prince of Wales, but in any case Prince Henry.

But if we are indulging in rewriting history, why should we stop there? We should go back to clever Vicky, the previous Princess Royal, Victoria and Albert's eldest child. Would she have been allowed to marry her gentle Fritz and become Empress of Prussia as well as Queen of England?

If so, would their twisted little son have grown up the way he did? Should we have had the Great War and had a European Community two generations before we did?

Why stop there? Mary Tudor would have succeeded before her half-brother Edward VI, at an age when she might have borne children. Spanish children? Might we still be a Roman Catholic country and have avoided the Civil Wars as well as the Armada?

How about the women in Cromwell's family? What about the proposal that Mary Queen of Scots should marry Don John of Lepanto? What is sauce for the gander is sauce for the goose. If we are going to readjust matters for the royals, we shall have in equity to do the same for the rest of us.

Philip Howard

Socially Distinguished People

The membership of the Social Democratic Party is predominantly young, male and middle-class with an almost total commitment to the European Community and a strong desire to curb the power of trade unions. These are among the clearest findings of a detailed survey by Opinion Research Ltd for London Weekend Television's *Weekend World*, the details of which have been made exclusively available to *The Times*.

Nearly 10,000 questionnaires were sent to SDP members in 22 area parties spread across the country. The 5,568 replies (representing about an eighth of the total party membership) provide the first real insight into who has joined the SDP, and why. Of those who replied, two-thirds were male. More than half (57 per cent) were under 45, with the largest concentration coming in the 25-to-34 age group.

The majority (57 per cent) were in professional and managerial occupations, compared with only 16 per cent in the population as a whole. Only 7 per cent were in working-class jobs, compared with 53 per cent in the country at large. Those in lower-middle-class clerical and sales occupations were also poorly represented, providing only 10 per cent of the SDP membership, against 22 per cent of the total population.

Even allowing for a certain distortion resulting from the greater readiness of the

Attitudes of SDP members on major policy issues		
	In favour	Against
Withdrawal from the European Communities	7	92
Incomes policy	89	9
Government investment aid for certain industries	79	19
Unilateral disarmament	22	78
Legislation putting employees in the board room	73	26
Curbing trade-union immunities	72	24
Leaving nationalized/private industry frontier where it is now	72	26
Leaving private schools as they are	28	72
Assemblies in English regions	31	67
Outlawing the closed shop	67	31
Reducing tax relief on mortgage-interest payments	32	64
National assemblies in Scotland and Wales	58	41
Wealth tax	63	34
Raising tax to pay for higher public spending	55	41

middle class to fill in and return questionnaires, these figures show a staggering social bias in the SDP's membership. Admittedly, the party is likely to attract more working-class members as it moves from Guardian advertisements and membership by credit card to more orthodox methods of recruiting. But as yet it looks a distinctly middle-class club.

More than two-thirds of those who responded to the *Weekend World* questionnaire (67 per cent) had never belonged to a political party before. Of those who had, the majority (15 per cent of all respondents) had been in the Labour Party. Another, a third had voted Labour in the last election, a third Liberal, and a quarter Conservative.

When asked to express in their own words why they had joined the SDP, the most popular reason (cited by 22 per cent) was because of the "new ideas" offered by the party's members. Other popular responses were support for the middle ground and the idea of a centre party (19 per cent), dislike of the extremism and polarization of the two big parties (17 per cent) and the leftward drift of the Labour Party (15 per cent).

The impression which these answers give is confirmed by the answers to the question about how SDP members see their party. Nearly twice as many (65 per cent) see it as a party of moderate reform as of radical change. It is significant that the majority would favour Roy Jenkins as the SDP's first leader in preference to the more radically inclined Shirley Williams or David Owen.

Another sign of the conservatism of the Social Democrat membership is that more of them (53 per cent) favour the election of the leader being in the hands of the party's members. Yet there are signs of change. At a meeting under British chairmanship because of the way they had been treated at the 1979 Dublin summit and during other budget and CAP discussions.

We could have achieved so much more, for ourselves and for the Community as a whole, had we shown wholehearted interest in its development and welfare. For example, a strong British lead in creating a more effective common energy policy, including more generous arrangements for the preferential supply of North Sea oil to our Community partners at times of temporary shortfalls in supplies from elsewhere, would greatly increase their good will towards us in negotiations as well as being in our own economic interest.

The disappointing history of the European Council is not a sign that its importance has been overestimated or that it should be downgraded. On the contrary, it is the major potential driving force of European integration. That is why it must be given the wherewithal to play the role which since its inception history has assigned it.

three quarters of those who replied to the questionnaire supported the idea of government investment in certain industries. Given the strong middle-class bias, it is not surprising that a clear majority opposed the idea, floated in an SDP discussion paper on housing, of reducing tax relief on mortgage interest payments. Rather more unexpected, however, is the fact that only 28 per cent of SDP supporters would leave private schools as they are (of the rest, 54 per cent, would remove their tax advantages, while 18 per cent would integrate them in the state system). The strength of support for a wealth tax is also surprising.

The SDP leadership will be required to find a clear majority (76 per cent) of party members agree with them on the subject of defence and disarmament. However, there may be some embarrassment about the strength of feeling against the unions revealed in the answers to the *Weekend World* questionnaire. The call for an end to trade union immunities and for the outlawing of the closed shop is one of the clearest demands of those SDP members questioned. It will be difficult to ignore and could well present the Gang of Four with a major problem as one of the clearest demands of those SDP members questioned. It will be difficult to ignore and could well present the Gang of Four with a major problem as one of the clearest demands of those SDP members questioned.

On the economy in general, SDP members appear to have a broadly Keynesian line, supporting expansion on a scale sufficient to bring about a substantial fall in unemployment. More than

the answers on specific policy issues give a fascinating insight into the party's members. Their views are clearest on Britain's membership of the EEC and on the introduction of an incomes policy, on both of which they return an overwhelming vote of confidence. There is also a clear majority (60 per cent) for such a policy to be statutory, with sanctions against those who break it.

On the economy in general, SDP members appear to have a broadly Keynesian line, supporting expansion on a scale sufficient to bring about a substantial fall in unemployment. More than

the answers on specific policy issues give a fascinating insight into the party's members. Their views are clearest on Britain's membership of the EEC and on the introduction of an incomes policy, on both of which they return an overwhelming vote of confidence. There is also a clear majority (60 per cent) for such a policy to be statutory, with sanctions against those who break it.

Ian Bradley

Why Vincent Hanna is happy about Crosby

All sorts of things will not be the same again after Crosby, and one of them is Vincent Hanna, the BBC's late-night man on the spot. When I spoke to him yesterday, Hanna was almost as jubilant as Shirley Williams herself. The reason was the BBC's new election results prediction system which, it can now be told, came uncannily close last Thursday night to predicting not just the overall result but the actual number of votes cast.

At Warrington, and again at Croydon, the Beeb, with Nuffield statistician Clive Payne, honed a system which works like this. First you need to find eight polling stations whose catchment areas reflect accurately the social and political make-up of the constituency.

Then they came up with a grading of all polling stations from the most Tory to the least. Taking the top and bottom stations, they then added six others spread at random between them on this "Tory" dimension and which covered the constituency social make-up. On the day of voting they interviewed every fifth voter as he or she came out of the station, paying particular attention to those who said they had switched their vote since last time. These figures were then amended in accordance with the relative sizes of the electorate (which in Crosby had grown by 2.2 per cent) and according to turnout (6.6 per cent lower last

week than at the General Election).

Hanna refused to look at the computer's final prediction in case he was tempted to use it on air but here are the figures, so you can see just how hard he is kicking himself:

	Actual votes
BBC predictions	22,428
Crosby	22,230
Lab	5,454
SDP	22,118
Warr	5,099

In other words, in an electorate of 57,297, the nearest got the majority wrong by just 150 votes.

Olympian task

SOPHOCLES, tragedian; b. Colonus Hippus, 497-95 BC, d. 406 BC, Sicily, s. of Sophilos, armour manufacturer, educ. Lamprus and Aeschylus; first prize Great Dionysia (18 times); led paeon to celebrate victory at Salamis, 480; president, foreign office tax board, 443; elected general, 440 (served under Pericles); elected priest, 421; member, Adv Comm Syracuse defeat fund, 413; publication, include: *Antigone*, *Oedipus Rex*, *Electra*, *recreations*: lyre playing, wrestling; club: *Thiasos ton Mouson*.

I am sure it won't read like that but Dr Michael Osborne, senior lecturer in ancient history at the University of Lancaster, is compiling a *Who was Who in Athens*. It strikes me as exactly the sort of thing he should be doing, especially as he will be attempting to list all known Athenians, famous and obscure alike.

It will be three to four years before *Times* readers can get their educated hands on the book but that's no time at all, of course, to a classicist.

THE TIMES DIARY

Dinner the other night with John Heath-Stubbs, the poet, who has had a marvellous idea and is compiling an anthology of poetry about science. At science, at alchemy and magic — yes. These were not medieval concerns to anywhere near the same extent as in the Renaissance. So Heath-Stubbs will include anti-astrology and anti-alchemy verse of this period rather than science poetry as such.

Three things have surprised him so far. The first is how much our early poets wrote about science. "I'm starting in medieval times and all the major names are there: Chaucer, Shakespeare, Marlowe, Spenser, Donne, Dryden, Pope, Keats, Wordsworth. And Milton kept for more about science than Donne did, contrary

Knesset crush

The Rothschilds of Britain are being summoned to the aid of a hard-pressed Israeli democracy. The Speaker of the Israeli Parliament, Menahem Savidor, has appealed to the British branch of the family, who donated the present Knesset building in Jerusalem, to put up extra funds for another block nearby. Apparently, the square Knesset edifice, which was opened some 15 years ago, no longer meets the needs of parliamentarians.

Although the number of Knesset members has remained con-

stant at 120, there are no longer enough offices to house all the Parliament's various committees.

The overcrowding has now reached a stage where about 30 MKs — a quarter of the membership — no longer have an office to call their own.

Over the years I have come in the view that more and more of our behaviour is influenced by genes. Something that Evelyn Reynolds of Suffolk has sent me shows that a certain tennis star owes quite a bit to his ancestors. Here is an

Related?

extract from page 87 of Jean Dubaut's *The Fifty Days — Napoleon in England*. "At the beginning of 1815, one McKenrot, or MacKenroth, had been used for defamation in the King's Bench Division by Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane, commanding the West Indies Squadron. McKenrot was of German extraction, born in London, where he studied law. He was of sullen disposition, excitable, and had a stormy career. Eventually he obtained a minor judicial appointment in Tortola, an island in the Lesser Antilles. He saw to it that he did not have a quiet life there. He had hardly arrived before, wishing to draw attention to himself, he picked a quarrel with Admiral Cochrane, whom he accused of incompetence, even cowardice, for not attacking a French squadron weaker than his own. This squadron was commanded by Admiral Villeneuve, accompanied by Jerome Bonaparte, and cruising in the same waters. Sir Alexander Cochrane, not prepared to have his character



John McKenrot calling on Napoleon

blackened by such a nonentity, brought an action in London against McKenrot. McKenrot, in preparing his defence, did not hesitate to ask leave of the King's Bench to call as witnesses his character, not only Admiral Villeneuve and Jerome Bonaparte, but the Emperor himself. He clearly wished to create a stir and impress the public. This seems more likely than it was obvious that he was already showing signs of excessive excitability (he was to end his days in Bedlam).

Blind proposal

The death of Lotte Lenya, over the week-end deprives us of the last hopes of a first-hand account of the turbulent partnership between Bertolt Brecht and her husband, Kurt Weill. Lenya began writing her story shortly after Weill's death in 1950, but no publisher was interested at the time and she abandoned the project. However, she had a store of anecdotes about the two men with which she loved to entertain anyone who would listen. My favourite is the account of how this effervescent Austrian actress came to marry the introverted, studious composer. "One Sunday afternoon I took him on a boat on the lake. He was very near-sighted and wore thick, thick glasses. I did nothing and hit his spectacles which fell into the lake. That was the afternoon he proposed marriage. I said later on: 'Kurt, would you have married me with your glasses on?' He peered at me, then said: '... I think so...'"

Quiz answers

1. The Jobs Express train left Newcastle last Monday for a five-day journey to London, picking up 300 unemployed youngsters, job trainees and students on the way.
2. Hellebrand rose from the Woolpack to challenge Lord Longford's suggestion that the Home Secretary had been elected by the judiciary.
3. The legalization of brothels in certain areas is to be considered.
4. The Transport Minister is conducting a Beeching-type inquiry into British Rail.
5. Mr Jocelyn Stevens was sacked as chairman and managing director of Express Newspapers.
6. The trainer, John Edwards, bought back his sleepchaser, Good Prospect, from the Prince of Wales.
7. Mobil Oil raised its offer for Marathon Oil last Thursday.
8. A British contingent of about 100 men will join the proposed peacekeeping force in Sinai next month.
9. The Government announced its decision to close the Royal Navy dockyard at Gibraltar.
10. Mr Harry Bass became an involuntary chat show host on Radio Bristol when a phone conversation with his son was interrupted.
11. The number of registered members in the EEC will reach 10 million by the end of this year, according to the EEC Statistical Office.
12. A reshuffle of shadow cabinet members took place last week.
13. The Government are giving British Rail an extra £110m to compensate for the drop in rail traffic caused by the recession.
14. British Telecom are to order 5,000 worth of electronic telephone exchange equipment.
15. Several men are facing charges of smuggling tons of cannabis.

Peter Watson

THE ARTS

Television
Unclean thoughts

Everyman did not go quite as far as investigating the aura of shame surrounding menstruation as to call Saints Jerome and Ambrose male chauvinist pigs, but the epithet hung in the air. St Jerome expressed his view that there was "nothing as unclean as a woman in her periods" and St Ambrose his "that Adam was led to sin by Eve", the latter hardly original as it were. However, sixteen centuries later there is no doubt that both would have been given.

Before and after Jerome and Ambrose, the Church was pretty hard on women, in fact it was Tertullian, who referred to women as "The Devil's Gateway", the title of last night's BBC programme. I am not sure of the context but Tertullian was very much a married man and, although he became a heretic himself, was a diligent hunter of heresy and I thought it just possible that he was being censorious about a particular sect, the Montanists. Be that as it may, he should have been more undiscriminating.

The idea that women's menstruating bodies were unacceptable to God as well as man was not peculiar to the Christian religion. Hindu and Moslem both overlaid this natural process with strictures and, consequently, guilt. Such guilt persists and producer Jenny Morgan carried out interviews with women, of various creeds and possibly, none, which supported this.

I thought it unfortunate that she did not manage to find anyone whose parents had been up to it and for whom the initial event had not been traumatic. Without taking anything away from her for an interesting idea, I thought the tone just a bit strident and the historical reflections seemed to pause about the seventeenth century. Surely in some part of the world, at least, it is not such a baffling happening now?

Anglia's *The Medicine Men*, which is being shown around the network at various times but which we saw on LWT on Saturday, is a series examining the claims of natural medicine which promises to be most rewarding and beneficial to the ignorant and sceptical.

It began by focussing on herbalism which, it appears — and there were two satisfied patients and much evidence to prove it — can offer relief especially in longstanding conditions where orthodox medicine has failed. Principal adviser on the series is Brian Inglis, an early contributor to the view that doctors do not necessarily know everything and that alternative medicine has a role. The producer and writer of this reassuring programme was Lloyd Fraser.

Dennis Hackett

Theatre

An outline of grandeur

The Oresteia

Olivier

Michael Elliott once summed up classical revival as the art of awakening a sleeping dragon in its cave. From this definition, Peter Hall's long-meditated production of *The Oresteia* strikes me as a virtuoso invocation that does everything except activate rumbles in the lair.

You could make the same complaint against John Barton's Grecian cycle which the RSC staged last year. But, in spite of its length, *The Greeks* had a more modest ambition. It was a primary narrative exercise for a public who had forgotten the story. Hall's purpose is to recreate the Aeschylean tragic experience with sufficient strength to generate a communal response from the house. (At the conclusion of its five and a half hours, we are asked to stand for the exit of the Kindly Ones.)

To this daunting end, he has transformed the Olivier Theatre into a miniature Epidaurus, assembled an all-male masked company, recruited our finest theatrical translator, Tony Harrison, and followed the probably Attic procedure of imposing a continuous musical discipline on the work, with a score by Harrison Birtwistle.

From that list of credits it seems that the production marks a point of convergence for several lines of development inside the company. The architecture and mask work go back to Hall's association with Michel Saint-Denis. The musical element reflects an impulse to feed his operatic experience into the theatre of the spoken word. Tony Harrison's text is an heroic expansion of his work with Bill Bryden's team on *The Passion*: a

strongly rhythmic, alliterative version, as down-to-earth as a nut or an apple, and calling for the kind of northern voices he had in the now-distanced Cottesloe company.

The effect of this act of union appears in the first moments of the show. The eye takes in Jocelyn Herbert's stage: a text-book Greek design, complete with orchestra for the Chorus, flanked on each side by a parados exit, and an upstage metallic skene with three lofty doors. Sometimes opening to disclose an ekklyptelema truck displaying murderous tableaux. A small window then opens at the top of the skene revealing the disgruntled Argos. Watchman. "The woman says watch, so watch I am... watching", masked though he is, the speech comes over like a Stanley Holloway monologue.

That is one of the few unaccompanied passages, but it is characteristic of the ensuing friction between high culture and peasant culture. Harmony might have been achieved as sometimes indeed it is, through the mask work. Of the unattributed performances shared between a company of 16 actors, there are some — particularly the gold and scarlet Clytemnestra and the huge-eyed Cassandra whose voices transmit the sense of a supra-personal rite and whose masks visibly alter according to changing events. There are other masks that have not found you to speak, and with them you find yourself identifying the actor and wishing he would take the thing off.

This is particularly the case with the Chorus, on whom meticulous care has clearly been spent. Making a series of spectacular entries as greybeards (in the *Agamemnon*), women (in *Choephori*) and Furies (in *Eumenides*) they are subject to precise operatic discipline. Their text consists of verse para-

graphs, each paragraph conforming to one emphatic rhythm and fixed tempo, whether the lines are distributed or delivered in unison.

Except at moments of extreme emotion — as where Orestes falls into a nightmare waltz with the clinging Furies (allied-visaged predators in seaweed draperies) — movement is limited to the statuesque attitudes of a frieze. And all too often the sense of the lines is muffled by the masks and blotted out by the rhythm. Instead of receiving a line of passionate moral argument, you are left with Mr Birtwistle's time-bomb ticking percussion and ominous harp chords, which merely suggest that something nasty is coming down the pipeline. When it arrives, his squealing woodwind and dislocated rhythms raise the murders to the required level of extreme formality and extreme horror. But the meaning of the horror is obscured.

The central drama, a titanic contest between blood-loyalty and the loyalties of the human bond, emerges in letters a mile high. So does the figure of Clytemnestra as the dominating presence in a community that despises women. The production articulates such ideas in scenes such as Agamemnon's mastery, contemptuous return from Troy.

There is a grand outline, but the style excludes detailed interaction and reverberation of the tragic argument. I much admire what I could catch of Mr Harrison's text, and would welcome the chance of experiencing it in humbler conditions — say at the Cottesloe.

Irving Wardle

Apollo and the Chorus of Furies in "Eumenides": operatic discipline



Dance

Swan Lake

Palace, Manchester

The most popular ballet ever made has rejoined Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet's repertory in a splendid new production that will give pleasure for years. This *Swan Lake* is doubly welcome for staying close to tradition (closer, probably, than the present Covent Garden version) and for rethinking every aspect to give it a logical point.

Credit goes to a team who have obtained worked closely and harmoniously. Peter Wright was in charge, and has acknowledged more help from Philip Prowse than a designer's responsibility entails. Galina Samsova as co-producer brings an apt Russian influence to the choreography and the style of dancing. Barry Wordsworth has upheld Tchaikovsky's share.

The only revolutionary change is a prologue, during the overture, showing Siegfried and his mother as chief mourners behind a crowned coffin. By establishing that the old king has just died, it puts the actions of the heir and the widow into focus, explaining his melancholy, her grim propriety, and the need for a dynastic marriage.

Act I becomes a surprise party to divert Siegfried. His grieving solo takes his proper place in an enlarged *pas de trois* (but surely the ladies who try to distract him must be from the court theatre, not courtesans as the programme says?). The prospective brides are announced by ambassadors; each arrives with her retinue, allowing Act III to enjoy an alternation of national dances, given more bite in Samsova's rearrangement, and bravura solos by Wright.

Prowse offers magnificent settings for those scenes, a gothic palace as seen through Russian eyes. The ballet's most famous scene, the lakeside, becomes Rothbart's lair, a ruined castle overgrown with creepers, mysteriously dark, with water glinting in moonlight just outside. It is the most imaginative reinterpretation of the original concept I have encountered.

I saw three performances, the company and the musicians making more of their chances each time. The orchestra, angry about an unpaid lay-off over Christmas, has considered and rejected a first-night strike. All praise to the swan corps de ballet, especially the delightfully precise quartet of cygnets and Mandy-Jayne Richardson's ecstatic lyri-

cism as one of the leaders. The men, proudly assertive in their new Polacca, deserve credit too, and almost all the supporting soloists, notable among them Lili Griffiths for her lilting style in a solo at the matinee, and Roland Price's Benno.

Happy the company that can present two such belated acts as Samsova and Margaret Barbieri on successive nights. Samsova's interpretation is familiar; Barbieri has never danced this role previously in England, and rarely elsewhere, yet she made the second act duet wonderfully eloquent, the third act dangerously seductive; only her first big solo suffered from indecisive arms.

Sherilyn Kennedy made an assured, smooth, but so far not at all individual first attempt at the role, with another debutant, Carl Myers, as her amiably boyish Siegfried. David Ashmore, dazzling in his solos, and the elegant Desmond Kelly, with Samsova and Barbieri respectively, gave more tragic readings of Siegfried. Kelly's unaided lay-off over Christmas, a dominating villain in this production; he and Alain Dubreuil, who shares the role, were both booted at the end: a real tribute.

John Percival

Opera

Alceste

Covent Garden

For Dame Janet Baker's farewell performances at Covent Garden, the Royal Opera House has done the decent thing and added Gluck's *Alceste* to the repertory. It is a revised French version, but its importance, as well as its historical importance, and seldom staged anywhere these days.

The title role is a superb part for a great singing actress, such as Dame Janet has made herself during a career of less than a quarter-century. *Alceste*, who offers to die in her doomed husband's place, is stage for most of the opera, the central figure, the quantity of marvellously expressive music to sing, not only such arias as the famous "Divinités du Styx", but long art songs, and accompanied recitatives as eloquent as can be imagined.

Gluck's *Alceste* is usually reckoned a soprano part, though it was adapted for a mezzo in 1861 to suit Pauline Viardot-Garcia's voice. For Dame Janet, Sir Charles Mackerras has made his own edition of Gluck's French version, transposing as little as necessary.

The Triumph of Virtue

Guildhall School

Going on opera digs to every shady corner of the repertoire is becoming a pastime and often unequal musical and dramatic execution is enough to discourage the most ardent seeker. But, once again, the Guildhall School of Music and Drama has justified the quest and proved the value of its particular treasure trove in a production bursting with a characteristically light-hearted and confident professionalism, right down to the varied and elegant curtain calls.

This sort of professionalism is vital to the success of Alessandro Scarlatti's *The Triumph of Virtue*, a typical early eighteenth-century Italian comic opera, its plot a

web of tangled affections, its progress tiresomely uneven, and its conclusion of virtue rewarded, and honour triumphant, improbable. Christopher Newell's workshop production, and Vilem Tausky's musical direction, meticulously ensured that we were aware only in retrospect just how little had taken place in two hours.

Yards of secco recitatives sprang along neatly tailored to each stage movement, exit and entrance. And, no less satisfying than the deft integration of recitative and aria, was the entirely appropriate and finely judged balance between and within arias of mock heroics, tender feeling and broad comedy as the volatile tempers of each of four pairs of lovers sway, waver, and are restored to equilibrium.

Particularly enjoyable were Paul Harris's generic Flaminio, ingratiatingly mobile and bittily witty through countless turns of phrase and voice; Linda Strachan's servant-girl, Rosina, her voice and stage presence emanating warm, mellow light; the dignified humour of Anne-Sophie von Oer's proud Leonora; and Maria Bonvicini's warty, ringing, yet tenderly effective Doracilla. The concerted numbers, like the duet between Leonora and Doracilla with flute and oboe, and the solemn post-duet quartet — near embryonic Mozart, this — revealed some of Scarlatti's finest music.

While Terence Emery's sensitively lit minimal set on a tiny, oval open dais was both attractive and imaginatively used from every angle, the positioning of the small band behind it posed challenges for ensemble between singers and players that were far from being met on the first night. But this should discourage nobody from the further performances tomorrow and on Thursday.

Hilary Finch

84 Charing Cross Road

Ambassadors

The sight of Helene Hanff on the set of the bookshop she made famous and blinking under the applause of the town she could never afford to visit made Thursday's opening into the end of a fairly tale.

Miss Hanff's 20-year correspondence with the manager and staff of the above address has been justly accepted as a love affair conducted with great charm and wit. But love has to feed on something, and it was patently obvious to Miss Hanff (who took the trouble to keep her letters for future use) that she was doing more than elaborating a set of antiquarian book orders into a pen pals' relationship with Marks & Co.

In her eyes, the firm stood for the English cultural inheritance for which there was small outlet on the Elvly Queen television series. Antiquarian authors were Sam and Geoffrey to her. And her correspondence with the stuffy, correct manager, Frank Doel, blossomed into an exchange between a culturally deprived superpower and a culturally saturated Britain in the days of postwar austerity. There is no hint in the letters that Mr Doel or his colleagues ever

read a book; but they certainly perked up over her food parcels.

The play that James Roose-Evans has extracted and directed from the letters takes its form from a complete trust in the material. Mr Roose-Evans wholly proves his faith in the book as a theatrical text. The Hanff letters are funny to read, but as delivered by Rosemary Leach the lines really sing through the house. So does her study assault on the reserved Mr Doel (David Swift), first signing himself off "F.P.D." before relaxing into "Frank", and, in one recklessly abandoned moment (which I cannot trace in the book's "Frankie").

The production unobtrusively builds up the relationship inside the shop, with Barbara Ward and Charmian May furiously undercutting Frank's exclusive rights to the Hanff account, and indignantly correcting him should he happen to omit the firm's name. One by one they drop out, and the production, presenting what is only implied in the book, shows his growing isolation in the shop before his abrupt death, leaving even Hanff without her Jane Austen order.

Irving Wardle

Itzhak Perlman appears on HMV as well as the Royal Variety Show



If you enjoyed Itzhak Perlman's brilliant playing on TV last night, you'll also enjoy his HMV records.

You'll find his recordings of the Royal Variety show items on Itzhak Perlman Plays Fritz Kreisler HMV ASD 328 and Itzhak Perlman Encores II HMV ASD 380. TCC ASD 380 available at all good record shops.

His recent records on HMV include an outstanding digital Beethoven Violin Concerto HMV ASD 4059 (TCC ASD 4059 Chromel and in a lighter mood, It's a Breeze HMV EMD 5337 (TCC EMD 5337 Chromel, an album of jazz compositions by André Previn.



Brian Friel's translations translations translations translations

"The best new play in London" (Observer)
"Magnificent... it shouldn't be missed" (D. Express)
"A masterpiece... I have never been more certain of witnessing the premiere of a national classic" (Times)

Tonight, Tomorrow, at 7.45, Wednesday at 3.00 & 7.45. Then December 17, 18, 19, 21

STANDEY: any unsold seats £4.33 midweek (mat) in 45 mins before start

NATIONAL THEATRE (Lyttelton)

01-228 2282 Credit Cards: 01-228 5833

RSC Warehouse DONMAR THEATRE TONIGHT TOMORROW THIRTEENTH NIGHT

The Soldier's FORTUNE A comedy by Thomas Orville

JAMES AUBREY BRIAN MURPHY NICHOLAS BURNARD PETER WOODWARD

Lyric Theatre

Hilary Finch Dancing Mozart Northern Sinfonia Queen Elizabeth Hall

Whether coincidental or not, two all-Mozart concerts on the South Bank this weekend came as a reminder that next Saturday is the one hundred and nineteenth anniversary of Mozart's death. On Friday night the Northern Sinfonia even recalled the financial

فكرا من الأصول

Wealth tax—a talking point again, page 17

Business News

THE TIMES Monday November 30 1981

New York bids for Eurodollar business, page 17

Mobil calls US Steel's Marathon bid 'illegal'

From Bailey Morris Washington, Nov 29

A decision in the first of two crucial court tests to the proposed takeover of Marathon Oil is likely this week as Mobil tries to convince a Federal judge to oust its US Steel rival from the bidding.

Mobil has accused US Steel of an illegal "sweetheart deal" with Marathon board members at the expense of the shareholders.

This is the crux of its case against US Steel, which got under way last week in Columbus, Ohio.

The outcome of the suit and another filed by Marathon in Cleveland, Ohio, challenging the Mobil takeover on anti-trust grounds, will be turning points in the battle.

Mobil is challenging two features of a US Steel offer. It objects to an option giving US Steel the right to buy 10 million shares of new Marathon stock for \$90 a share and to another allowing it to buy Marathon's most valuable domestic oil property if the company is in fact taken over by a third party.

Mobil has argued that such options are illegal as they are designed to protect the interest of Marathon's board rather than to promote the interests of shareholders.

The more critical of the two options is the one allowing US Steel to purchase Marathon's interest in the Yates oilfield in Texas, should a third party take over. This interest is worth an estimated \$6,000m but the option allows US Steel to buy it for only \$2,800m. Mobil has said it will withdraw or modify its newly-increased offer for Marathon if this option is not withdrawn.

Mobil is the high bidder, having revised its original offer for 51 per cent of the stock to \$126 a share from \$85. US Steel has offered \$125. In either case, the merger would rank as the second largest takeover in American history.

If the options are not withdrawn, Mobil reserves the right to withdraw its new offer or enter it again to buy as little as one-third of Marathon's outstanding shares.

In challenging the other options granting US Steel the right to buy 10 million additional shares, Mobil contends this gives an unfair bidding and price advantage.

US Steel and Marathon directors said, however, that Mobil's original offer was grossly inadequate.

The Columbus court decision could be made this week, but the Cleveland case is not as far along. The Federal Trade Commission is also studying the anti-trust implications.

Meanwhile, as attorneys argued in court, US Steel tried to allay criticism of its bid.

Mr David Roderick, US Steel president, issued a statement saying the Marathon acquisition would in no way force his company to abandon its steel modernization plans or divert resources from other key segments of its steel business.

He also disclosed that the company has increased its cash position by arranging additional credit of \$5,000m under a new agreement with 33 domestic and foreign banks to make the acquisition and modernization plans possible.

CBI predicts no more than 1pc recovery

By John Whitmore, Financial Correspondent

Britain's economy will pick up only slowly next year with output recovering by no more than 1 per cent, according to the latest economic forecast from the Confederation of British Industry.

Only on the export front does the CBI forecast improved productivity and international competitiveness.

This is a trend the CBI expects to continue in 1982, albeit to a less marked extent. Even so, it expects some recovery in non-oil exports next year, particularly if there is faster growth in world trade than in 1981.

At home, the CBI sees very little to look forward to other than an end to deteriorating some time in the middle of next year. Even here, the CBI shows marked caution.

While pointing out that devaluing the pound to mid-1981 was equivalent to a 3 per cent of gross domestic product, the CBI is not looking for a large rescheduling surge to get the economy moving again.

It suggests that any net rebuilding in the second half of next year is likely to be very small. In addition, it sees any restructuring tending to have its most notable impact in boosting imports.

For the rest, the CBI's story is one of an economy finding it difficult to move out of recession. Personal spending power is viewed as likely to remain under pressure this winter. The report says that recent regional soundings suggest that retail sales volume may now be starting to slip.

The report is rather less gloomy on private sector capital investment prospects. After the further fall in 1981, the CBI expects overall investment to stop falling in 1982. This, however, includes a further fall of about 5 per cent in capital investment in manufacturing industry, offset by rises in investment in the North Sea and other sectors of the economy.

In spite of the fact the economy is passing through the worst of the recession, the CBI sees employment in manufacturing industry continuing to fall until mid-way through next year. As a result, it sees unemployment rising further.

After allowing for those taken off the register by special government measures, however, it sees unemployment stabilizing in the second half of next year at around 2.5m. While the report offers some encouragement to the Government on the export front, it also sees a further rise in oil imports keeping the current account of the balance of payments in small surplus. It has few other messages of cheer.

Even in terms of the improved position on relative labour costs, the CBI feels that ground recovered over the past couple of years may be lost as a result of the recent improvement. The forecast envisages the domestic inflation rate hovering around 11 per cent until next spring.

largely reflects the slowdown in the growth in building society deposits.

"It would be unfortunate if interpretation of the monetary situation did not make full allowance for this long overdue competition in the savings and mortgage market."

In the immediate future, however, the survey raises a note of caution. It points to the stable cash drain from the market as the effects of this year's Civil Service dispute are unwound.

This, it warns, is likely to lead—at the least—to periodic upward pressures on rates at the very short end of the market.

Other economic officials have predicted that the jobless rate will reach 9 per cent.

Mr Reagan acknowledged that there would be large Federal deficits for several years but disputed projections that the spending gap for 1981-82 would be as high as \$100,000m. The Government would re-examine laws which link welfare spending to increases in inflation, he said.

He hoped that Congress and the administration could work out a compromise on public spending before the December 15 deadline, so that the one-day stoppage in government caused by last week's deadlock would not be repeated.

Other economic officials have predicted that the jobless rate will reach 9 per cent.

Mr Reagan acknowledged that there would be large Federal deficits for several years but disputed projections that the spending gap for 1981-82 would be as high as \$100,000m. The Government would re-examine laws which link welfare spending to increases in inflation, he said.

He hoped that Congress and the administration could work out a compromise on public spending before the December 15 deadline, so that the one-day stoppage in government caused by last week's deadlock would not be repeated.

Other economic officials have predicted that the jobless rate will reach 9 per cent.

Mr Reagan acknowledged that there would be large Federal deficits for several years but disputed projections that the spending gap for 1981-82 would be as high as \$100,000m. The Government would re-examine laws which link welfare spending to increases in inflation, he said.

He hoped that Congress and the administration could work out a compromise on public spending before the December 15 deadline, so that the one-day stoppage in government caused by last week's deadlock would not be repeated.

Other economic officials have predicted that the jobless rate will reach 9 per cent.

Mr Reagan acknowledged that there would be large Federal deficits for several years but disputed projections that the spending gap for 1981-82 would be as high as \$100,000m. The Government would re-examine laws which link welfare spending to increases in inflation, he said.

UK motorcycles' future bright

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Britain's motorcycle industry is on the brink of its healthiest period for years, according to a report published today.

New manufacturing developments such as Lord Hesketh's "superbikes" are rekindling the entrepreneurial vitality which was once an integral part of British motorcycle production, the study by Keynote Publications says.

No British company can attack the home market because of Japanese domination but the report applauds attempts by Lord Hesketh and Waddan Engineering, of Croydon, which has also introduced a new motorcycle.

Hesketh aims to produce 2,000 of the 1,000cc V-twin cycles a year. Waddan expects to be making 5,000 of its 125 to 500cc range each year by the end of 1982. The report says that if these targets are achieved—and it considers Waddan's goals to be optimistic—they could boost British motorcycle production by at least a third within two years.

Interest in both new products is already at an intense pitch, although the most severe problems to be faced are likely to be found in the retail distribution of their products, the report says.

Even if they can persuade often sceptical United Kingdom dealers that a market for British cycles is lurking not far below the surface, they will find it difficult to promise delivery times, supplies of tools and spare parts, and back-up service smogies.

While Britain remains firmly entrenched in recession, it is more than likely that the public will continue to search for a means of transport as an alternative to cars and public services.

Motorcycles, Keynote Publications, 23 City Road, London EC1Y 1AA, £25.

There has been growing concern over its credit-worthiness in recent months as it has become evident that Romania has had severe liquidity problems.

Although bankers are quick to point out that the problems are very different from those of Poland, which could not meet its commitments and has been forced to go to its bankers to reschedule its hard currency bank borrowings.

This has had serious consequences for Romania with its unsatisfactory hard currency debt of about \$10,000m (£5,128m) of which \$5,700m is owed to Western banks.

Mr Mills said the union was represented in each of the major foreign banks in Britain and with the Americans taking a greater share of the lending market, it had decided to try and recruit among them.

Meanwhile, the union has drawn up guidelines for members over approaching pay negotiations.

The union's claim for clerical members in the five main banks—regarded as a benchmark for most of the banking industry—will be submitted in January. It is likely to seek a new minimum weekly rate of £80.

headed by himself and funded with the help of the print unions and staff pension funds would be preferable.

Last night Mr Paul Spicer of Llandovery, one of the groups mentioned as possibly being interested in buying the Express group, said that the papers it owned at present, The Glasgow Herald and The Observer, were manageable and controllable and that was the way the group wanted to keep them.

which takes in the Daily Express, the Daily Star and the Sunday Express.

Mr Stevens is understood to have had doubts about the danger because of potential trade union difficulties and his profit forecasts for the newspapers. It would remove newspapers and publishing from the balance sheet of Trafalgar House.

He is said to have suggested that a management buyout, which takes in the Daily Express, the Daily Star and the Sunday Express.

Mr Stevens is understood to have had doubts about the danger because of potential trade union difficulties and his profit forecasts for the newspapers. It would remove newspapers and publishing from the balance sheet of Trafalgar House.

He is said to have suggested that a management buyout, which takes in the Daily Express, the Daily Star and the Sunday Express.

Mr Stevens is understood to have had doubts about the danger because of potential trade union difficulties and his profit forecasts for the newspapers. It would remove newspapers and publishing from the balance sheet of Trafalgar House.

He is said to have suggested that a management buyout, which takes in the Daily Express, the Daily Star and the Sunday Express.

Mr Stevens is understood to have had doubts about the danger because of potential trade union difficulties and his profit forecasts for the newspapers. It would remove newspapers and publishing from the balance sheet of Trafalgar House.

He is said to have suggested that a management buyout, which takes in the Daily Express, the Daily Star and the Sunday Express.

Mr Stevens is understood to have had doubts about the danger because of potential trade union difficulties and his profit forecasts for the newspapers. It would remove newspapers and publishing from the balance sheet of Trafalgar House.

He is said to have suggested that a management buyout, which takes in the Daily Express, the Daily Star and the Sunday Express.

Mr Stevens is understood to have had doubts about the danger because of potential trade union difficulties and his profit forecasts for the newspapers. It would remove newspapers and publishing from the balance sheet of Trafalgar House.

Research warning

The Government has been accused of "scientific suicide" by refusing to aid research and investment for biotechnology which could lead to the United Kingdom becoming a crucial industry being undermined.

Mr Roger Lyons, a national officer of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, told a pharmaceuticals national conference at the weekend that the Government's refusal to take positive action was leading to a "brain drain" of leading scientists.

JOINT VENTURE

President Sandro Portini has inaugurated a \$250m joint venture between Fiat and Peugeot-Citroen to make up to 80,000 vans a year at Val di Sangro in central Italy.

Stock Markets

FT Index 533.4
FT 100 64.40
FT All Share 313.15

Sterling

\$1.9565
Index 91.9
New York: \$1.9642

Dollar

Index 105.3
DM 2.2155

Legal boost for bonds

Building Societies hope that amendments to the Trustee Investment Act to allow trustees to buy building society negotiable bonds, will encourage a secondary market in these securities.

Nationwide Building Society pioneered the bonds and is due to come to the market next Friday with the sixth £5m tranche of its £100m fund-raising exercise.

Register time for brokers

Insurance brokers will have to be registered with the statutory Insurance Brokers' Registration Council from January 1, 1982. This is one of the provisions of the Insurance Brokers (Registration) Act 1977 which prevents the sale of insurance by persons using the title "insurance broker" if they have not first registered.

Mitterrand visit

M François Mitterrand, the French President, starts a two day visit to Algeria today determined to put relations with the former colony on a new footing. But there is still no sign of any settlement on the main economic issue dividing the two countries, the price to be paid for liquefied natural gas exported by Algeria to France every year.

The EEC Commission has announced it will not approve the Belgian Government's controversial steel plan until it is convinced that the plan will lead to a "viable and profitable" industry.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

UK contractors to bid for £540m Cairo sewage plan

The Egyptian sewerage authorities are to put out to tender to British companies work on the \$540m Greater Cairo Wastewater Project (Rupert Morris writes).

This is a joint venture between the Egyptian authorities and British Wastewater, a concern whose shareholders include Midland Bank and Samuel Montagu, which funds contracts for British sewerage and water companies.

The contracts include a main tunnel 14 kilometres long and between 4 and 5 metres wide under the centre of Cairo, costed at about £100m.

Textile threat

The threat to Britain of a big increase in textile and clothing imports from Spain and Portugal is causing concern among British delegates at the negotiations in Geneva on the Multi-Fibre Arrangement.


Portugal already sends 49 per cent of its EEC exports to Britain.

Bullion rise

Precious metals bought on the Zurich bullion market will cost more after a referendum in Bern yesterday to raise sales tax and cut income tax. The vote affects the Zurich bullion market since precious metals sold for physical delivery in Switzerland are subject to retail sales tax.

TAX CUT PLEA

A 2p cut in income tax can be afforded next year, the Institute of Directors has told Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer. Sales of public assets, which will exceed targets by £1,500m this year, will compensate for the cut, the Institute says in its submissions for the 1982 Budget.



Profits and progress present no problems to BCA

* We started up in 1946 with a turnover of £300,000. Today the wide spectrum of BCA business covering every facet of the automotive industry has a turnover of £216 million - THAT'S PROGRESS.

* In our first year our profit was £15,000 and a dividend was not paid. Last year our profits reached a record £2.9 million and our twice covered dividend amounted to £701,000 - THAT'S PROFIT.

* We are not depressed about trading conditions now - or in the future. Our figures for the first three months of the current year are already ahead of last year's - NO PROBLEM.

Our newly adopted big-hearted, very friendly, gentle but aggressive lion is featured in our Report and Accounts which contains the Annual Review by David Wilkins, Chairman. Copies can be obtained from The Secretary, Expediter House, Farnham, Surrey.

THE BRITISH CAR AUCTION GROUP PLC

Head Office: Expediter House, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7PY
Telephone: Farnham (0252) 711222 Telex: 858192

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Frank Lipsius

As sterling starts to climb again

With the pound trading above \$1.96 in New York on Friday evening and closing at DM4.33 in London earlier in the day, we must now be near the point where something will have to give. There is, of course, no official exchange rate target, and it may well be that the present level of sterling remains just about within the tolerances of any unofficial target band. But unless there has been a fresh evolutionary twist in government thinking, we must be re-entering a zone of potential discomfort.

Certainly, that is the conclusion to which one is led by the latest CBI survey. This makes it clear that UK exporters have indeed been seeing a worthwhile increase in orders from North America on the back of the lower sterling/dollar exchange rate. But it is hard to believe that those exporters are now going to welcome a quick reversion to a \$2 pound.

Much more disturbing, perhaps, is what the CBI has to say about exporting to Europe. In this case, the tale has changed little. It remains one of weak demand and a lack of U.K. competitiveness. (Little wonder incidentally, that the government is in no hurry to become a full EMS member at this stage).

What we do not yet know on the other hand is whether action to put the lid on further sterling appreciation by constantly snipping away at U.K. interest rates would be consistent with domestic monetary objectives. As I explained last week, this problem of keeping exchange rate and domestic monetary policy in tandem is going to be one of the government's main problems over the coming months.

So with the upward pressure on sterling now seeming to develop quite strongly, it is vitally important that the November money supply figures, due out on Tuesday week, represent at least a step in the right direction.

At the moment, though, the authorities have made it abundantly clear that they see any decline in interest rates this winter as being relatively slow and orderly, they also appear to have no objection to an immediate half point cut in the banks' base rates.

Whether they have made this view clear enough in their market dealings is obviously a matter of opinion. If the bank's small reductions in its bill dealing rates last week were intended to encourage the clearing banks, it is equally obvious that the latter did not regard the signal as strong enough.

That, however, may in part reflect the technical position in the market at present. Given its preference for dealing with day-to-day shortages of liquidity through the discount market, it is not always easy for the Bank to put the rest of the banking sector into balance. It may in fact be getting some additional liquidity to the banks in other ways (e.g. through foreign exchange operations), but it looks increasingly as if it will have to provide some rather larger direct help to the banks if it is to see the system through a difficult winter without risk of upset.

Property companies More frequent valuations

Since efficient capital markets rely on a full flow of information, all market-watchers will welcome the accounting standard on investment properties SSAP 19. The standard requires all property companies to revalue their land and buildings assets every five years by external valuation and to make an internal directors' estimate of value every year.

This will undoubtedly help the market to measure relative profitability in the property sector where, at the moment, some property companies hold assets which have not been revalued for near on twenty years. Analysts would, of course like to have even more information, but there is only so much that can be extracted by an accounting standard.

However, at least the important provision for some kind of annual revaluation can now be regarded as having been achieved since no reputable property company will be willing to risk the now formalized penalty of an audit qualification for failing to revalue. In practice these sanctions will not come into effect until the property companies complete accounting periods starting on or after July 1 1981. For many, which account to March 31, the standard will not apply

until they prepare their accounts to March 1983. Of course, some of the most progressive companies, such as Land Securities, have already come pretty near the standard's requirement by revaluing all their properties every two years.

Other companies have perhaps only revalued very occasionally, as the result of new rental structures or financing agreements, though this is understandable since the costs of full revaluation can be very high.

Passage of the standard means that for the first time there will be strict comparisons of performance rather than comparisons based on estimates. Everyone should welcome this achievement.

House of Fraser Waiting on Mr Biffen

Will Sir Hugh Fraser get Harrods for Christmas? For Jim Santa Claus could come in the form of Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, who any time now will make up his mind whether Lorrho should be allowed to bid for the House of Fraser.

Appropriately, perhaps, Mr Biffen will be taking his decision in the middle of Fraser's most important trading period of the year. Certainly, half-time results from the group hardly strengthened the case for continuing independence. Although profits rose from £1.02m to £1.29m, they were well below market expectations and gloomy trading talk did little for the share price.



Professor Roland Smith, chairman of House of Fraser

However, current indications are that trade has picked up and in early October Harrods, which accounts for a major portion of Fraser's total profits, was said to be enjoying a small boom.

Moreover, under Professor Roland Smith and Mr Ernest Sharp, Fraser has been working on its assets. Last January they were 305p a share. After Christmas they could well approach £4 - a figure which was banded around last January at the time Lorrho first decided to bid.

Free of board room harassment while the Monopolies Commission has been conducting its investigation, Fraser management reckons they have been able to spend much more time running the business. And its dogged support from institutional investors could well make it a tough nut for Lorrho to crack, and one that will certainly not yield to Lorrho's original offer of 150p a share.

If Mr Biffen does decide that Lorrho's bid is not against the public interest, then a wider battle will commence with former Lorrho merchant bankers S. G. Warburg and stockbrokers Cazenove fighting to keep Fraser independent. However, the shares at 181p are near the year's peak and one possibility, perhaps, would be a bidder who would take Lorrho's stake and then launch its own offer.

Lorrho has already pledged to put Sir Hugh Fraser back at the top of Fraser if it is successful. Cynics suggest that might not be the best strategy to win support from institutional holders.

New York banks bid for a slice of Eurodollar business

New York On Thursday, New York will become an offshore banking centre, competing directly with European and other foreign banks for Eurodollar business. The change is causing considerable excitement on Wall Street.

It is quite an event," says Mr Robert Jackson, vice-president of the Chemical Bank. "We'll be able to bring back to the United States a lot of foreign business that went offshore."

The new provisions, which were approved by the United States Federal Reserve Board and supported by New York State banking regulations, are designed to put New York on a more equal footing with other Eurobanking centres, the largest of which is London.

Under the new regulations, so-called International Banking Facilities (IBFs) will be able to accept deposits and extend credit to foreign residents or other IBFs.

Funds will be exempt from the usual reserve requirements and from interest rate limitations. But the new regulations are not meant to allow American companies and individuals to circumvent domestic banking regulations. The new facilities will be restricted to customers' operations outside the United States.

New York banks have lobbied heavily for the IBFs to simplify international operations and allow American banks the same latitude that their foreign competitors enjoy in their Eurodollar transactions. Essentially, Eurodollars are American currency not controlled by federal regulation in the United States.

Eurodollars are used to pay 67 per cent of the world's international transactions. At present, the pool of Eurodollars stands at more than \$1,340,000m equivalent

to the whole of the United States government debt.

The pool has nearly tripled over the last five years and continues to grow at a prodigious rate because of high American interest rates and balance of payments deficits.

European banks have dealt with dollar accounts since the Soviet Narodny Bank in Paris started making dollar loans and accepting repayment in dollars after the war.

In practical terms, off-shore banking privileges mean that banks will be free of the regulations that force American banks to leave a certain percentage of their assets on deposit with the Federal Reserve.

A complicated formula is used to calculate the exact amount the Fed requires, but it is as much as 14 per cent of some deposits, forcing banks to hold significant amounts in a non-interest-bearing form.

Also, IBFs are free of interest rate ceilings which apply to domestic banking, and income from such interest is free of state and local taxes.

To establish their off-shore facilities, banks have merely had to notify the Federal Reserve of their intention. The IBF can be housed in the bank's premises, and rather than a separate branch of the bank, it is merely a separate set of accounting ledgers.

About 140 banks have already notified the regional Federal Reserve Boards of their intention to open an IBF. While federal regulations apply throughout the United States, 99 other banks are under the jurisdiction of the New York Fed. Three quarters of them are foreign banks, ranging from the major British banks to the Thai Farmers Bank.

British banks intending to start IBFs on Thursday include Barclays Bank, International Grindlays Bank, J

Henry Schroeder Banking Trust Company, National Westminster Bank, Standard Chartered Bank and Lloyds Bank International.

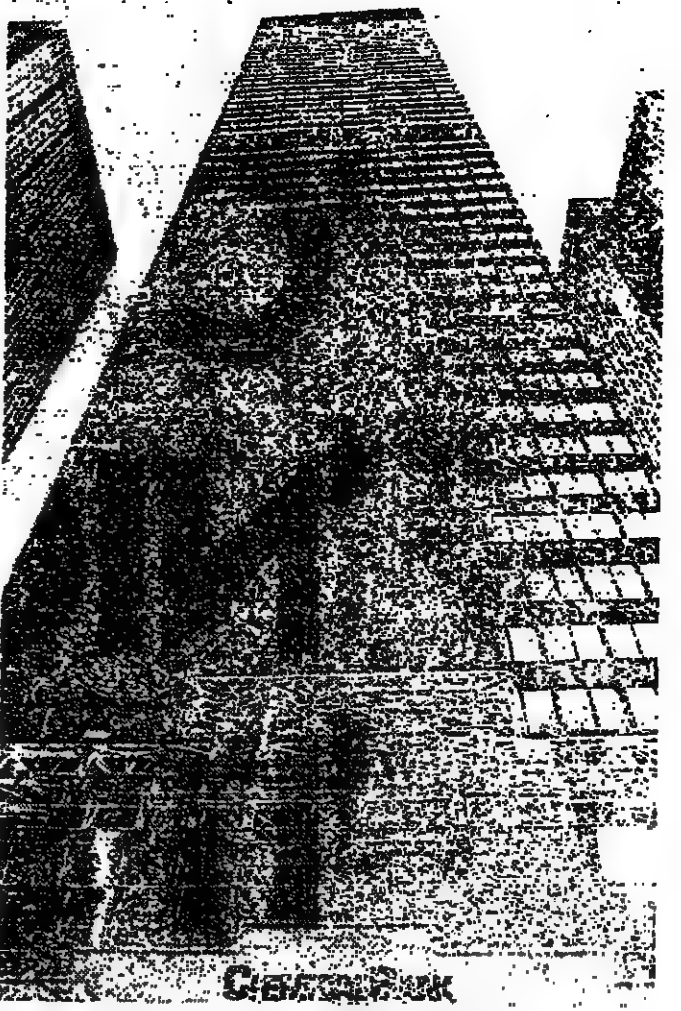
Other regions must make sure that state banking laws come into line with federal regulations before their IBFs are operable. Eight states have already taken steps to do so. Rather than be deprived of the advantages of the IBFs, American banks have held off shore banking facilities, including branches in London, the Bahamas, Nassau and Bahrain. It was this successful circumvention of United States regulations that forced the Fed to extend the facilities to the United States itself.

As a result, money at least technically handled abroad may be repatriated, but no dramatic change in day-to-day operations will be perceptible. On the other hand, Federal Reserve economists predict that the convenience of the new centres in New York may draw as much as \$125,000m over the next few months.

London controls about 32 per cent of Eurodollar transactions, a figure that by 1990 may be reduced to 20 per cent according to Mr David Ashley at Grindlays Bank in London. New York's share is expected to rise to 18 per cent in the decade and the Bahamas' and Cayman Islands' share over the same period will fall from 11 per cent last year to 2 per cent.

"We do not see any significant near-term impact on our London operation," says Mr Douglas Ebert, senior vice-president and deputy general manager of Manufacturers Trust, the third largest bank in New York.

The bank will be assigning only 10 people to its new IBF, which will be housed in the bank's international banking centre on Wall



Chemical Bank headquarters New York: "We'll be able to bring back a lot of foreign business that went offshore."

Street. It will probably open IBFs in Miami and Los Angeles when the bank feels comfortable with the new regulations.

Over the long term however, he foresees the convenience of the IBF drawing money, which might otherwise have been placed abroad.

Similarly, the Chase Manhattan Bank, while opening IBFs in Los Angeles, Houston and Miami as well as New York, is hiring only a few extra clerks to help with the new operation. As with most banks, the IBFs will be handled by the same staff who are already dealing with international transactions.

Transactions can be made in currencies other than dollars, and foreign residents may hold accounts in IBFs, but an individual IBF time

deposit must be at least \$100,000. Since American corporations can use the IBFs for their foreign operations there are certain grey areas which require further elaboration, including the question of lending money to off shore American subsidiaries for the purpose of exporting American goods and determining how foreign securities bought on the open market can be assured of falling into the proper IBF category of "used for a foreign purpose."

Despite the slow start and initial uncertainties, the IBFs should have an increasing impact on international banking as they are integrated into American banking practice. Mr Lawrence Ullick, vice president of the Morgan Guaranty Trust Company describes them as "the best of all worlds."

Wealth tax a talking point again

The wealth tax merry-go-round has been given another whirl by the Crosby by-election.

Mrs Shirley Williams, the victor, is in favour of wealth taxation and a remarkably high percentage of the SDP membership (63 per cent, according to a London Week-end Television poll) agrees with her. If wealth tax is adopted by the SDP/Liberal Alliance, two out of three British political parties will be urging a wealth tax in their programmes at the next general election.

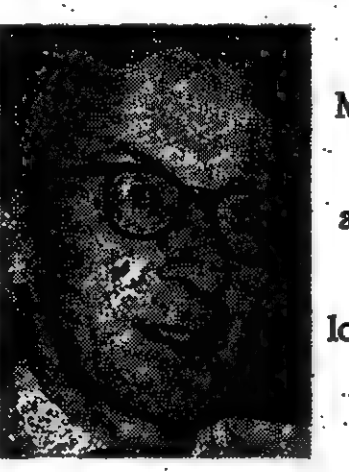
There is no doubt Labour will make — by way of wealth tax — its last attempt to achieve the elusive "fundamental shift of wealth and power" that was Mr Denis Healey's declared objective in 1974.

In France, a newly devised version of this tax has become law, and its structure and results will serve as precedents for us to follow.

The notion of taxing wealth is regarded with relief by the left for whom the very word "wealth" carries with it the connotation of privilege and inequality.

This psychological advantage is supported by the convenient economic theory that wealth confers security and opportunity over and over again, and that unequal distribution of wealth should be countered by taxing it separately, in addition to taxes on income, profits, and so on.

The French have been rehearsing these arguments,



Professor James Meade (left) and Mr Dick Taverne: for and against a wealth tax. Now they are looking at the subject on an SDP study group.

and the outcome is that from January 1 1982, each French family will be liable to *l'impôt sur la fortune* annually at progressive rates — from 0.5 per cent to 1.5 per cent — despite bitter criticism of the tax as confiscatory and unconstitutional, ineffective, destructive to the economy, marriage, wine production and civilisation in general.

To get his tax on to the statute book, budget minister M Laurent Fabius has been obliged to make concessions. In particular, works of art have been exempted, although subject to an annual increase in the tax base.

But the scope of the tax remains wide, catching all property owned by French residents wherever situated, plus foreign-owned property in France.

How will it work? Each January 1, commencing 1982,

an individual French family will add up the net value of its goods, rights and property including the domestic home — to see if the value exceeds 3m francs (about £300,000). If it does, the head of the household files a return. There is a further exemption of 2m francs (about £200,000) for business and professional property corresponding to similar reliefs in Britain's capital transfer tax system, and designed to preserve small businesses from sale or break up, when cash to pay tax is required.

In France, wealth is unusually distributed. 57 per cent of the population owns 57 per cent of it; 11 per cent no wealth; and a further 32 per cent owns a negligible amount.

It is not easy to see how the distribution will be changed by the new tax,

which at first glance, appears not at all burdensome. About 200,000 taxpayers are estimated to be liable and the yield is forecast about £500 million.

On the other hand, income tax rates are being raised for those in top brackets; wealth tax is not indexed; and once tax is exacted, rates can be increased and thresholds lowered.

There is an existing effective capital gains tax in France, but historically, the French have been reluctant, grudging and evasive taxpayers. At last, they are being dragged into the net.

The SDP does not yet have a firm policy commitment to a wealth tax but has set up a study group under Mr Dick Taverne QC, a former Financial Secretary to the Treasury, to ponder the problems of taxation, poverty and social security.

Mr Taverne, as it happens, has unhesitatingly stated his disapproval of a wealth tax, particularly one introduced for the sake of slogans; one



Professor James Meade (left) and Mr Dick Taverne: for and against a wealth tax. Now they are looking at the subject on an SDP study group.

without any real yield or social or economic effect, designed merely as a sop to the extreme left, paying lip-service to the concept of transferring from rich to poor.

Administratively, wealth tax must be burdensome, if only because the measurement of wealth is a more uncertain process than that of income. Income usually comes in cash, whereas capital is usually held in assets, the valuation of which can be difficult. It is impossible to be sure what a property is worth until it is sold, and even then the price may be a special one.

Nowadays, the costs of government are more recognized than previously, and a tax which costs some £30m to yield £500m, does not, in Mr Taverne's view, make sense.

Also, it is common ground that non-income yielding property such as works of art, standing timber, and family homes should in fairness be exempt, and the effect of exemption will be to create a bias in favour of these things, so forcing up prices.

It is predicted this will happen in France. Widespread evasion and legal avoidance are also predicted. On the other hand, there is the substantive justification propounded by Professor James Meade and other fiscal economists, to the effect that wealth tax would permit reduction in more damaging taxes, such as income taxes.

Since Professor Meade is to be a member of Mr Dick Taverne's study group, it is unlikely that Mr Taverne will have things all his own way.

Oliver Stanley

Business Diary profile: Yvon Gattaz and France's CBI

A new man for a new situation. That is how one might sum up the choice of Yvon Gattaz, 56, as next president of France's equivalent of the CBI — The Conseil National Du Patronat Français (CNPF).

Whereas incumbent president Francois Ceyrac, 69, has always been an official without industrial experience, Gattaz is the owner of a highly successful electronics components company he founded 29 years ago. While Ceyrac tended to represent the interests of the giant French industrial groups and multinationals, Gattaz has set himself up as champion of the small company.

When relations between industry and the socialist government could hardly be worse, the less ideological tone of this lively entrepreneur might improve the climate — especially as he does not come from the big business establishment of which the socialists are so suspicious.

A year ago nobody would have given Gattaz a chance. If a new man was to have been selected, he would have almost certainly come from inside the organization with the blessing of some of the big industrial groups and federations. But that was before the socialists came to power. Dozen of the largest

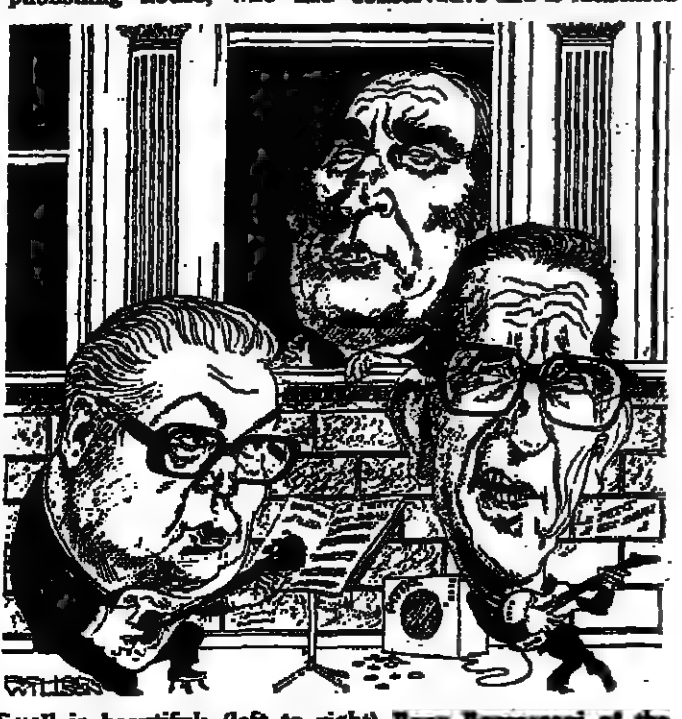
French companies were nationalized and French industry found itself under attack from the Government. The contest finale was between two Yvons. The other was Yvon Chotard, aged 60 and head of a Paris publishing house, who had taken over industrial relations responsibilities from Ceyrac when he (Ceyrac) was elected president in 1972. A man who knows the system inside out and has shown himself a considerable negotiator, he is regarded as conservative and is identified with the Ceyrac regime.

Up against him was Yvon Gattaz. Who sees himself as both a man of action and reflection. Not only has he built his firm Radiol into one of the most profitable French companies with its 800 employees and 180m francs (£16.4m) of sales, but he has also become quite a philosopher on business management. Just after the May 1968 student riots he brought out his first book *Les hommes en gris*, a defence of small firms. In 1973 he launched his own monthly magazine called *Les quatre vertes* and in 1975 he set up "Ethic", a group of about 1,500 progressive businessmen favourable to the concept of a medium-sized firm with between 50 and 2,000 employees.

Last year he brought out a second book *La fin des patrons* forecasting the end of the old French business establishment. As one can imagine, it was not easy to choose between two candidates with such different experience and ideas. But when members of the 35-strong executive committee started suggesting Yvon might be preserved if Ceyrac was kept on, the two men signed a pact. Agreeing to support each other.

If Chotard won, Gattaz was to have been given responsibility for reforming the

Small is beautiful: (left to right) Rene Bernasconi of the CGPME, President Mitterrand and the CNPF's Yvon Gattaz.



patronat. If Gattaz did, Chotard was to stay as director for industrial relations questions. This deal probably enabled Gattaz to pip Chotard to the post. The formal election of the president will occur at the general assembly meeting next month, but the nominated candidate is invariably adopted.

The new man has a lot going for him. He is highly articulate, intelligent, and has plenty of ideas and is full of energy. He can be touchy when defending members' interests and favours unity among employers in face of the socialist government. But he is a man of dialogue and has been down to earth and business-like in his approach.

The vocation of companies is economic and indirectly social, but not political, Gattaz says. "Companies must stick to the language of economics. It is that which makes them credible." With most of the bigger French companies being nationalized, Gattaz could be placed in a very delicate position. If they stay, he could be accused of collaborating with the state; if they go, he loses a very large percentage of the membership fees.

The answer might be to concentrate on the smaller

companies which he has specialized in, but then he is likely to run up against the powerful Confederation for Small and Medium Companies (CGPME). Its president, Rene Bernasconi, has not concealed his distaste at the choice of Gattaz and has made it clear he does not want him moving in on his watch. On the other hand the Syndicat National de la Petite Moyenne Industrie (SNPMI) offshoot of the CGPME is delighted at the Gattaz nomination and is already talking of moving closer towards the patronat.

The main reservation about the new leader is that he does not know his way around the patronat yet, having worked for only five years. "He is a man of ideas, not somebody in the system," said one businessman.

There are also suggestions that he is too intellectual for the average small company owner. "Ethic is just an elite club. The sort of thing that is discussed there would not interest people running smaller companies."

What is certain is that he will need all the skills at his disposal if he is to maintain the unity of the French employers. Much will depend on those he picks to work with him when he takes over in January.

Michael Parrott

CHARTERHALL LIMITED

Mr Derek G. Williams, Chairman and Chief Executive of Charterhall Limited, the U.K. based independent oil and gas and minerals group, made the following principal points to shareholders at the Annual General Meeting held in London on 25th November, 1981.

- As a result of the July 1980 Rights Issue the Company's asset base has been increased substantially.
- The number of ventures in which the Group is involved has nearly doubled in the last year.
- 6.5 million barrels of oil have been produced from the Buchan Field and Charterhall is receiving cash flow from its small working interest. Revenue from its Net Production Interest is expected to commence by the end of 1982.
- A dividend of 0.3p per share for the year ended 30th June, 1981 is to be paid on 7th December, 1981.
- Plans for the public flotation of the Australian Group are well advanced for the further development of Charterhall's interests in Australia.
- The North American interests are to be further expanded and an office has been established in Denver.
- Charterhall is now well placed to consider opportunities for further increasing its asset growth.

Copies of the 1981 Report and Accounts can be obtained from the Secretary, Charterhall Limited, Sutherland House, Brighton Road, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5BA.

'C'EST IMPOSSIBLE. 'NICHT MÖGLICH.' 'IT'S ALL YOURS.'

FRENCH ENGINEER.

GERMAN ENGINEER.

MICHAEL WATES.

"It can't be done in time."

That's what Phil Lord, the Managing Director of Wates Construction was told when we first began the new Crédit Lyonnais bank development.

It could, and it was, by Wates. Despite the doubts of French and German engineers, the new London headquarters of this French bank was handed over ahead of the target date.

Handing it over in time was only one of the features of the job we're proud of.

The multi-million pound block was built within the original budget figures.

(Something a bank is quick to appreciate.)

And it was built in two phases, because an old fire station was still standing on the site when we started work.

Then, it was of a most unusual curvilinear design, with an outward slope to each floor to maximise the usable space.

Crédit Lyonnais wanted their new London headquarters to be a really distinctive building.

The nature of the site — one of the last major bomb sites in the City, and near St Paul's — dictated that it had to be.

Today, it is one of the most magnificently-appointed bank headquarters in London.

It has full air conditioning, a computer room, smoke and heat detectors, elaborate alarm systems, and strong rooms that are strong enough to withstand the thermic lance — the bank robber's latest weapon.

As well as the Crédit Lyonnais building, Wates Construction are providing new premises for Baring Brothers and Company, the Deutsche Bank AG, the Bank of Scotland, Crédit Suisse, First Boston Ltd, the Bank of New South Wales and many others.

We hope this means we're the contractors the financial community feel they can bank on.

Wates Limited,
1260 London Road, Norbury,
London SW16 4BG.
Telephone: 01-764 5000.

wates build with care



CRÉDIT LYONNAIS ARCHITECTS: WEPSTEAD & MACFARLANE PARTNERSHIP
QUANTITY SURVEYORS: WICKSTEED SON & FENWICK STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS: OVE ARUP & PARTNERS



Black spots on Ipswich's horizon

Manchester City, also inactive for a week because of injuries and influenza, gave them adequate practice but only just. Corrigan apart, only for a lack of competence, discipline, control and wit were City outstanding. The sum of their feeble efforts was two shots, from Tueart and McDonald, which bounced off the

No easy meat for Butcher : all the pioneering spirit of Ipswich fails to chop down Reeve

As O'Callaghan finally stirred himself, City disintegrated completely. He was aided by the waywardness of McDonald. ("where did that left back go to?") Mr Robson asked. And he set up the second for D'Avray to head home bravely at the far post. So much

Mr. Kouson is converted man, even though they scarcely deserve to be. Ipswich are still among a group of six threatening to break away. Manchester United lead that sextet, Stapleton and Birtles continuing to repay their huge fees by scoring the goals that sunk Brighton.

home record intact and pushed Birmingham City into the bottom three for the first time. It was also the first time this season that Tottenham Hotspur share the points, although they led Notts County with only two minutes to go before doing so.

Welsh hopes of joining England, Scotland and Northern Ireland in next summer's World Cup finals were shattered yesterday when their group three rivals Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union drew 1-1 in Bratislava, a result that ensured both Iron Curtain countries qualified for

[illegible]

Mr England blunted that he would carry on in his present position as a professional football league club management official, and came his way. The Wales captain, Neil Fyfe, echoed Mr England's feelings, saying: "It is a sad day for Wales. We knew that when we lost to Russia that our day was over."

Fyfe admitted that he was "a little bit jealous" that the Russian midfielder would be in the World Cup, but he hoped they would do well out there. Yesterday's result cost the Welshs 250,000 bonus, while their association stands to lose £250,000. The Russians led after 14 minutes, but the Welshs equalised in the 15th minute, equalised 10 minutes later to put the Czechoslovaks through.

It was only the second point since the 1990 World Cup when in their eight group matches, and Czechoslovakia's goal was only the second in the group. The Czechs qualified, and the Russians scored 20 goals in win-

By Clive White on his wife and on his players' Evans and Palmer
Wolverhampton W 2 Stoke C 0 loyalty from day to day. give the penalty
For a man who walks a tight- The players, whom he has "Give me peace bet
barr'd from publicly voicing penalties." Mr B

brush, open style of management does not conform with the Mollinoux way of doing things and consequently he has not been offered a new contract and lives

No place fo

honour and his price tag with modesty. Wolves went ahead after 23 minutes. Richards, more sprightly than ever, was brought down by

STOKE CITY: E. McManus; H. Evans; P. Hampton; A. Dodd; G. Callaghan; D. Smith; P. Johnson; C. L. Chapman; P. Bracewell; M. McGuire. Referee: B. Stevens (Stonehouse)

By Norman Fox

Aston Villa 3 Newcastle Forest 1

Somewhere there is a place
where the rain is
like a giant's hand
clapping the sky.

bulk to detain the Villa centre forward who intimidated the interim centre half, Anderson, quite unmercifully. One began to

Both goalkeepers kept Forest from a more damaging beating. Shilton made extraordinary saves from Morley and the delicate

No one was badly hurt. But Nottingham Forest finished with yet another central defender out of action. Needham pulled a leg muscle, with a little assistance from Withe's boot, leaving Forest

less effectively in an enduring battle with Evans. Mr Saunders suggested that Fashanu should decide whether he wanted to be a boxer or a footballer, but afterwards Evans, the bruised champion of the bout, grinned all the way to the treatment

beginning to be a burden.

ASTON VILLA: J. Rimmer, K. Swain,
G. Gibson, A. Evans, G. Williams, E.
Deacy, D. Bremner, D. Shaw, P. Withe,
G. Cowans, A. Morley.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST: P. Shilton,
V. Anderson, S. Gray, J. McGovern, D.
Nooham (sub, M. Proctor), S. Gunn,
G. Mills, P. Ward, J. Fashanu, C. Walsh,
J. Robertson.

By Vince Wright
Sheffield Wednesday 3 Watford 1

The first half was odd in that much of Wednesday's football was unconvincing, yet they scored two fine goals. Curran, wearing a No 11 shirt but operating almost

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY: R. Bolder; P. Shurthall, G. Williamson, M. Smith, B. Shurthall, G. Williamson, M. Smith, D. Leman, J. Bannister, J. Pearson (sub. I. Vellor), T. Curran.

John Greig, mentioned afterwards that this changed the course of the game. United had until then been well on top. Rangers, with this let-off, lifted themselves and went forward to take their eleventh League Cup.

The man who did it for them was Redford, the villain of the piece six months ago when he

Goals by McCluskey and Provan sent Thistle to the bottom of the league as their fellow strugglers, Dundee, picked up two welcome points at home against Morton.

After Celtic had taken their total to 23 points from 14 matches, Billy McNeill, the manager, said "We are back in

By Iain Mackenzie
Rangers 2 Dundee United 1
Dundee United's attempt to win

John Greig, mentioned afterwards that this changed the course of the game. United had until then been well on top. Rangers, with this let-off, lifted themselves and went forward to take their eleventh League Cup.

The man who did it for them was Redford, the villain of the piece six months ago when he

Goals by McCluskey and Provan sent Thistle to the bottom of the league as their fellow strugglers, Dundee, picked up two welcome points at home against Morton.

After Celtic had taken their total to 23 points from 14 matches, Billy McNeill, the manager, said "We are back in

Celtic hoisted themselves points clear at the top Premier division of the league on Saturday. Aberdeen were suffering

Goals by McCluskey and Provan sent Thistle to the bottom of the league as their fellow strugglers, Dundee, picked up two welcome points at home against Morton.

After Celtic had taken their total to 23 points from 14 matches, Billy McNeill, the manager, said "We are back in

By Nicholas Harling
Crystal Palace 1 Bolton Wanderers 0

place with such trepidation is beyond reason. As Palace's record shows and their efforts illustrated, they are not adept at hitting the target. After two attempts in the first 25 minutes had gone for nothing, Palace could only improve, and they did so marginally. Cannon, their captain and more than half proving his side's

CRYSTAL PALACE: P. Barton; S. Mallory, D. Boudier, J. Murphy, J. Canning, S. Lovett, S. Brooks, N. Smolin, Langley, E. Mabbott, V. Hibara.

Terry Curran, could leave Sheffield Wednesday when his present contract ends. With Manchester United and Everton among the clubs already expressing interest, Jack Charlton may decide that now is the time to part company with his much-travelled forward.

Julio Uribe, 24-year-old

— but not to Sunderland

Terry Curran, could leave Sheffield Wednesday when his present contract ends. With Manchester United and Everton among the clubs already expressing interest, Jack Charlton may decide that now is the time to part company with his much-travelled forward.

Julio Uribe, 24-year-old

colours

to take advantage of their extra man.

Donnan, Drummond and Tomlinson scored Leigh's tries. Donnan dropping four goals and Donnan dropping a goal; Lyons scored two more goals for Trinity and Jones also got a try.

Fulham's tendency to commit Polish offences again cost them dearly. The referee's decision that the victory was helped by their visitors frequently committing errors. After a full first half Harrington turned on the heat in the second and good moves brought tries to Kelly and Fulham. Heaford kicked five goals. Fulham reserved their best rugby until too late in the second half. A try by Lyons and Diamond handed two goals and a dropped goal.

Wreghtitt closes gap but still loses to Zweifel

By John Willcockson.

Albert Zweifel, aged 32, from Switzerland, repeated his victory of last season in the Halfords International Crosses at Sutton Park, Birmingham, on Saturday, again beating the British champion, Colin Wreghtitt, into second place. It was a more closely-fought race than last year's, with Wreghtitt beaten by only 16 seconds, compared with 37 seconds in 1980.

When leading after nine of the 16 laps, Wreghtitt, aged 23, had to change to his spare bicycle because part of his left hand

Netball
England Harry
Barbados
into defeat

By a Special Correspondent

England 55 Barbados 30

England decisively beat Barbados at Wembley on Saturday to record their sixth win against the West Indies. Although the visitors' physically equalized England's opening goal, the home side regained the lead forthwith and never surrendered it.

Last week in Geneva, it was confirmed that Great Britain will defend their 1983 world cup championship, with this course at Sutton Park as the venue. The intricate 1.5 miles circuit, with several steep run-ups and descents, two water splashes and muddy trails through the forest, will provide the world's best

England's command was focused on tight marking. Barbados, however, was not under pressure and harried into inaccurate passing. When England attacked they speedily found the weaknesses about the Barbados defence openings. Their centre passers were effective, those of Barbados were not; their long ball was better than the Barbados' was slower and popped.

England captain, J. Hines, played a particularly fine game and dominated the attack. Six pre-dominant stream of perfect passes and a superb shot. Chris Taylor, who scored 4 goals from 11 attempts.

GB players gave a spirited performance at wins defence.

England's players were:

Goalkeeper: G. Thompson.
Defender: G. Thompson, G. Davies.
Centre: J. Hines, G. Davies.
Forward: J. Hines, G. Davies.
Goalkeeper: J. Hines, G. Davies.
Defender: J. Hines, G. Davies.
Centre: J. Hines, G. Davies.
Forward: J. Hines, G. Davies.

By Our Political Editor

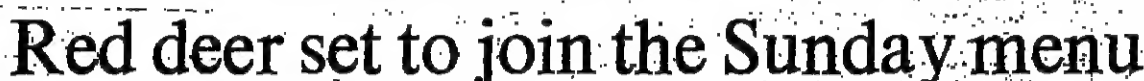
By a Staff Reporter

Union reforms

Reporter

The poll, conducted by MORI, will be shown on BBC television's *Panorama* tonight. It shows that 70 per cent of the public and 61 per cent of unionists agreed that a company should be able to sue a union for compensation for strikes over a dispute which had nothing to do with the company.

Asked whether companies should be permitted to sue unions which had broken agreements, 75 per cent of the public and 70 per cent of unionists said yes.



Research has suggested that within 20 years, venison could account for 5 per cent of Scottish meat production, and an experimental deer farm run by the Highlands and Islands Development Board on the west coast of Scotland is gathering evidence to discover whether large-scale farming on the vast emptiness of the Scottish Highlands would be feasible.

San Francisco	1 34	Los Angeles	1 17 68	Prague	1 3 37	Warsaw	1 0 32
Capo Town	1 28 64	Los Angeles	1 13 45	Reykjavik	1 1 34	Washington	1 20 50
